

State school fees proposal splits Tories

Thatcher and Baker clash on education

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

A significant disagreement emerged yesterday between the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Education over the Conservatives' plans for state schools.

In a move that delighted her more radical right-wing supporters but surprised more cautious party campaigners, Mrs Thatcher appeared to suggest that schools which opted for independence from local authority control would be allowed to introduce selection and charge fees.

In doing so she went well beyond the terms of the Tory manifesto.

But Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, promptly repeated a pledge he had given earlier in the week that schools choosing independence would not be allowed to change their character.

Last night, after urgent consultation between the Prime Minister and her officials, a statement was issued on her behalf which did little to dispel the confusion.

It said the Government expected schools to "maintain the essential character they had in line with their catchment areas at the time of opting out".

But it also repeated that it was "for the schools themselves to choose their own pupils".

The statement added that schools which opted out of local authority control would remain state schools and "would not charge admission fees".

Both Labour and the Alliance said Mrs Thatcher's words confirmed their worst fears that the Tories' proposals for reforming state education meant a return to a selective and divisive system.

Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman, said the Prime Minister had "let the educational cat out of the bag". He added: "This means a return to the 11-plus, to a privileged education for the

lucky few and secondary moderns for the rest. It will bring chaos to schools and waste the talents of millions."

Mr Paddy Ashdown, the Alliance spokesman, said Mrs Thatcher had shown that she was planning to reintroduce a two-class education system.

Questions about the implications of the manifesto commitment on schools took up 20 minutes of Mrs Thatcher's hour-long morning press conference.

She rejected a suggestion that allowing schools to opt out of local authority control would necessarily lead to selection based on pupils' aptitude and ability.

"We do trust people to take their own decisions and choices... if schools go independent it will be up to them to pursue their own admissions policy."

She said she saw nothing "horrible" about selection by aptitude or ability.

Mr Norman Tebbit, the party chairman, said: "There is a degree of selection which exists at the moment. Our proposals will widen that."

On the question of charging fees, Mrs Thatcher said schools which opted for independence would receive a direct grant from the Government "sufficient for the good education of the children".

"At present, we're not excluding the possibility that they may also raise additional sums... we should look very carefully at any imposition of a fee upon the children."

Mr Baker, who was not at the press conference, refused to comment on what Mrs Thatcher said.

Continued on page 24, col 7

Alliance still aim to cancel Trident

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel said yesterday that they remained committed to the cancellation of Trident if an Alliance Government came to power.

But they did not include its cancellation in their list of non-negotiable items should they find themselves bargaining with the Conservatives for a share in a coalition government.

They also confirmed that in government they would listen to the advice of the chiefs of staff before deciding on any nuclear weapons system. They refused to exclude the possibility that the retention of Trident would be included among their options if they were in government. Dr Owen said: "Never is not a good word for any politician to use."

Meanwhile the Conservatives kept defence at the top of the political agenda. Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, repeated the "unilateralist" charge which has riled the Alliance leaders.

He said at the Conservative press conference, with Mrs Margaret Thatcher beside him: "If Labour would give away Britain's nuclear deterrent, the SDP and Liberals would allow it to fade away. Like Labour, theirs is a policy of one-sided nuclear disarmament. Today only the Conservative Party can be trusted to maintain the policies which have kept the peace."

Mr Younger said that Labour's policies would "strike at the heart of western defence". Its offer to make the future of American bases in Britain subject to consultation was not worth the paper it was written on and would damage Nato.

He said that the Alliance was "wobbling" on Trident. Its manifesto stated that it would cancel it, but four days after publication its policy was more confused than ever. Even if the Alliance could agree on a replacement for Polaris it would be too little, too late.

The Alliance leaders yesterday emphasized that it always had been their intention to consult the chiefs of staff. The important thing was that they were intent on retaining a minimum nuclear deterrent for Britain but as cheaply as possible.

Dr Owen said that Trident was not the only such option but he was challenged by Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Conservative Secretary of State for Defence, to name any senior military figures wanting to cancel Trident.

"I never met them in three years in the Ministry of Defence. I never met an advocate of the French alternative nuclear system and I never received a word of advice suggesting that botching up too few Trident submarines with too few cruise missiles would begin to equal a credible deterrent."

Continued on page 24, col 5



Princess Anne parts company from her horse Cnoc Na Cuille after jumping the final fence during a National Hunt race at Towcester yesterday. The Princess was unhurt (Photograph: Hugh Routledge).

Reagan tribute to Gulf victims

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The American presence is essential in building peace and in avoiding larger conflict in the tinderbox of the Middle East, President Reagan told grieving families and relatives of the 37 sailors killed in the missile attack on the USS Stark in the Gulf.

Peace was at stake here, and so too was America's security and freedom, he said at the memorial service in Mayport Naval Station, Florida.

"Were a hostile power ever to dominate this strategic region and its resources, it would become a chokepoint for freedom — that of our allies and our own."

The President's reference to America's allies was made against a background of reported remarks by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, who told Senator Robert Byrd, the Senate Democratic majority leader, on Monday that the Pentagon would like to see Britain and France helping in providing air cover for the US Middle East force. But the State Department has privately suggested that this is totally impractical and no formal approach is therefore likely.

Mr Reagan said that Americans knew the price of freedom in this uneasy world. "To retreat or withdraw would only repeat the imprudent mistakes of the past, and hand final victory to those who seek war, who make war."

As he has done so often and so well in his presidency, Mr Reagan moved among the widows and grieving relatives, shaking their hands, saying a word of comfort to each, embracing and sustaining those overcome with tears.

Meanwhile concern has grown here at the prospect of the US being sucked into the Gulf War. After the 91-5 vote in the Senate on Thursday to block the US plan to protect Kuwaiti tankers until the Administration submitted a security plan for US and allied forces in the region, officials have tried to calm fears of imminent conflict with Iran.

The US team which will carry out a joint investigation with Iraq of the attack on the Stark will arrive in Baghdad in Monday.

British rejection: Britain would reject any US proposal to increase the Royal Navy's presence in the Gulf by sending an aircraft carrier to help to provide air cover for oil tankers bound for Western ports. (Our Defence Correspondent writes).

At present there are two frigates, HMS Broadsword and HMS Active on the so-called Armilla Patrol and a third, HMS Cardiff, in the Indian Ocean.

Steel wins substantial damages

From Stephen Taylor, Suva

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and the wife of a leading barrister have been awarded "very substantial" libel damages over "ill-founded and malicious gossip" about him.

Mr Peter Bowsher, QC, for Mr Steel and Mrs Esbeth Campbell, the wife of Mr Menzies Campbell, QC, told Mr Justice Jupp in the High Court yesterday that the "so called allegations" were no more than gossip and rumour.

They appeared in *The Star* last Saturday in a story headlined "David Steel: Agent speaks out".

The newspaper's editor, Mr Lloyd Turner, and publishers, Express Newspapers, now accepted that "there was not a word of truth in this disgraceful rumour upon Mr Steel and Mrs Campbell, each of whom is very happily married," Mr Bowsher said.

"The libel was all the more wounding because they and their families have for many years been close personal friends," he said.

"Furthermore, the libel came at a time when Mr Steel was fully occupied with a rigorous election campaign both on his own behalf and on behalf of the Alliance, so that its publication was bound to have a particularly damaging effect upon him."

The newspaper and its editor agreed to pay undisclosed damages and all legal costs, and expressed their "profound apologies to Mr Steel and Mrs Campbell for the acute embarrassment and distress which they and their families have suffered," Mr Bowsher said.

Mr Andrew Caldecott, for the newspaper, said they accepted that there was no truth whatever in the allegations. The article complained of contained a strong denial by Mr Steel's election agent and was published in an attempt to inform those who had heard the rumours that they were totally untrue.

They accepted that the repetition of the substance of the rumour was wholly wrong and had apologized two days later.

The judge gave leave to withdraw both libel actions.

Caretaker post for Fiji coup leader

From Stephen Taylor, Suva

The soldier who led last week's Fijian coup and the man he overthrew are both to have places in a caretaker administration announced yesterday.

The peace deal was announced by Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni R. Rukuba from the balcony of the civic building where leaders had been meeting since Tuesday.

There will be a Council of Advisers nominated by the Governor-General, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, ten of whom will constitute the interim government, and eight of whom will act as an advisory review body on the constitution. Only three of the 18 are ethnic Indians.

Colonel Rukuba will be a member of both, although in what capacity is not clear. The council includes six members of the Alliance Party, the opposition in the last Parliament, including Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the party's former Prime Minister.

This comprises with two from the NFP-NLP coalition

which constituted the overthrown government of Dr Timoci Bavadra — the deposed Prime Minister himself, and Mr Harish Sharma, his deputy. Dr Bavadra indicated he was not happy with the balance of positions, but said he would give a formal response only after consulting his colleagues today.

The Governor-General said in a radio broadcast that not all the appointments would be

Hawke rejection: 6

Constitution problems: 6

welcome, but he had placed emphasis on representing all interests of Fijian society.

The island will remain under the state of emergency Ratu Ganilau declared last Thursday — only hours after Colonel Rukuba marched the entire Bavadra government out of Parliament at gunpoint — until after an election.

Ratu Ganilau said one of his priorities would be the restoration of good relations with foreign friends.

Air traffic back on schedule

Air traffic in Britain is likely to be back to normal for the Bank Holiday weekend after a computer breakdown in France caused delays of up to seven hours.

The Civil Aviation Authority said last night that, after the delays caused by the computer failure at Brest and the dispute involving French air traffic controllers, flights would be on schedule today.

The dispute involves action only from Monday to Friday so flights this weekend are not at risk but early flights to Europe on Monday morning might be affected by minor delays.

Europe, the North and the North-west of Britain should have sunshine and warm weather this weekend, while the south and south-east of England face a cold and drizzly late spring Bank holiday.

Weather forecast, page 24

Shell halts fuel after IRA threat

The Shell Oil Company is to stop supplying police in Northern Ireland after the Provisional IRA issued a death threat against one of its managers.

The man, based in Londonderry, received the warning three days ago as part of a terrorist campaign against people supplying materials to the security forces which has resulted in the death of eight people and the halting of work on some security force bases.

The company investigated the threat and on discovering it was genuine decided to withdraw from supplying fuel to the RUC. It is understood that Shell Oil does not usually respond to general threats but in this case decided it was impossible to provide protection for their staff.

A spokesman for the company said they had "no comment" to make.

Unionist quits, page 2

Princess falls off 'the hill'

From Stephen Taylor, Suva

The Little Wood on Top of the Hill threw Princess Anne to the bottom of the last fence in the Leading Artist Handicap Chase at Towcester yesterday.

It was particularly galling for the Princess since the ten-year-old Cnoc Na Cuille, Gaelic for the little wood on top of the hill, was never out of the first two and forced most of the running.

When Cnoc Na Cuille made a mistake at the final fence, Princess Anne was thrown over his shoulder. She hung on for about three strides, then had to let go.

Declining the helping hand of a policeman, the Princess was quickly on her feet and able to tell Dr Michael Allen, the Jockey Club senior medical officer, she was all right.

Mrs Diana Nicholson, whose husband trains Cnoc Na Cuille, said: "The Princess blames herself entirely."

The race was part of a meeting that included *The Times* Championship hunter chase final.

Point-to-point final, page 43

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THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

Photographs, page 6

Catalogue of pain Barbie did not want to hear

From Michael McCarthy, Lyons

They took the stand one after another yesterday until the ears were ringing from their harrowing accounts. And all were women.

Two old ladies, two middle-aged; yet the flower of France, if you like, four individuals who took the decision to join the Resistance. They all paid a terrible price, and at the Lyons Assize Court yesterday they followed one another to contradict Klaus Barbie detail the assertion of a woman that he never tortured a woman.

As the city's wartime Gestapo chief made his seventh consecutive refusal to attend his trial for crimes against humanity, it was clearer than ever why the catalogue of pain laid before the hushed court might have been too much even for a Nazi like him.

Barbie denied three times in the preliminary hearings before his trial that he had ever tortured a woman, but all four women yesterday asserted he had tortured them.

Mme Irene Clair, now 65, was a petite blonde of 21 when she was picked up with six other Resistance members on March 9, 1944. She said Barbie told her: "Little blonde, you are going to get coshed." She was also shown the tortured bodies of her fellow fighters before being lashed by Barbie with a bull whip. Eventually she was sent to Ravensbruck concentration camp.

Her experiences seemed to pale beside the ordeal of Mme Lise Lesèvre, now 86, hobbling up to the witness stand with a stick and refusing a chair. Mme Lesèvre, arrested with

her husband and son on March 13, 1944, told the court how Barbie hung her from the ceiling by her wrists with spiked handcuffs till she passed out, tied her to a steel table and lashed her with a bull whip, ripped her back open by lashing it with a spiked copper ball on the end of a chain, and pushed her time after time into the bath in which Barbie ducked people till they nearly drowned.

She told him nothing, although she was interrogated for 19 consecutive days. She too was sent to Ravensbruck: her husband and son died in Dachau.

Mme Ennat Leger had to be carried up the steps to the stand in her wheelchair by four policemen, as she is 92 and since her time in Ravensbruck she has been blind.

Hardest of all to take was the account of Mme Simone Lagrange, now 56, who was arrested with her parents on June 6, 1944 — D-Day — when she was 13. She told how Barbie punched her face repeatedly in front of her parents to make them reveal where their other children were.

Eventually she was taken away for a fortnight and Barbie gave her mother to suppose she had been shot. When she was returned she was covered in blood and bruises and Barbie told her mother: "That's what you've done to your daughter."

Mme Lagrange and her parents were sent to Auschwitz and she saw her mother go to the gas chambers.

Photographs, page 6

INSIDE

Cash promise

What are the party leaders offering to voters at general election time? Family Money analyses the three manifestos. Pages 30-40

Portfolio

- There is £12,000 to be won today in *The Times* Portfolio Gold competition — the weekly prize of £8,000 plus the daily £4,000.
- Yesterday's £4,000 was won by Mrs D. Horton, of New Milton, Hampshire. Details, page 3.
- There will be no competition on Monday because of the Bank holiday.
- Portfolio daily list, page 29; weekly check, page 40.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Killer on outing gives nurses slip

Police were last night searching for a schizophrenic killer who escaped from his nurses while on a day trip from Rampton secure hospital to the North Yorkshire seaside resort of Scarborough.

Danny Sutton, aged 22, who is described by police as violent, was convicted of arson and manslaughter last year after a Salvation Army hostel resident died in a fire started deliberately by the missing man.

Rampton administrative staff are now to begin an inquiry into how Sutton, who was in Scarborough on a "resocialization" programme, managed to give nurses the slip on Thursday afternoon.

A costly tippie

The world's most expensive bottles of whisky went on display at the Royal Opera House in London yesterday.

Eight of the 30 bottles of Macallan whisky, which was distilled in 1926, are to be auctioned in the form of sealed bids. One bid of £5,001 has already been received. The record for a bottle of spirits is £1,265.

The Macallan Distillery produced the 30 bottles from a cask designed to hold enough for 450.

Pop cash settled

Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart, of the Eurythmics pop group, have reached a secret settlement of a claim by Transatlantic Records of unpaid royalties against them. They contested the claim and counter-claimed damages.

In the High Court yesterday Mr Justice Tucker was told by Mr Michael Burton, QC, for the record company that agreement had been reached.

24 held in drugs raid

Sixteen people are due to appear before Birmingham Magistrates in June after a police raid on the Nite Spot cafe in Loddon Road, Handsworth in Birmingham when cannabis with a street value of £40,000 was seized.

They have been all been bailed to appear in court on June 2 and are all expected to be charged with possession.

Trawler missing

The crew of a capsize trawler were still missing last night after a force eight gale on Thursday.

Coastguards confirmed that wreckage found off the north-east coast came from the boat, the Annara. But there was no sign of her crew, the skipper, Mr David Barratt, Mr Peter Ward, and Mr Paul Briggs, all from Bridlington.

Sinn Fein man shot

Gunmen yesterday attempted to assassinate Mr Alex Maskey, a Provisional Sinn Fein councillor and the director of elections for Mr Gerry Adams.

Mr Maskey, aged 35, was shot in the stomach in the hall of his home in Andersonstown, west Belfast, where Mr Adams is a candidate in the election.

He was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital where he underwent emergency surgery.

Widow's claim

The widow of Mr David Penhaligon has started legal action against a van driver involved in the road crash which claimed the life of her husband three days before Christmas.

That was confirmed yesterday by Mr Christopher Tromans, solicitor acting for Mrs Annette Penhaligon, whose husband was Liberal MP for Truro, Cornwall, for 12 years.

Public not informed of severe problems facing prison officers' Rising level of violence at low-risk jails

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Open and semi-open prisons are suffering from a "quite horrifying" increase in violence, according to Mr John Bartell, chairman of the Prison Officers Association.

He said that every month there were more than 100 violent acts against staff in the prison system. But it was in "open" conditions where inmates were supposed to be better behaved or considered less of a security risk that any eruption of violence was much more frightening.

Mr Bartell, who was answering questions from the Press on the last day of the association's annual conference in Southport, said that Wymott prison, near Preston, was again becoming unruly. Wymott is listed as a category C prison under a system that categorizes degrees of security from A, the most severe, to D.

Mr Mal Thomas, assistant secretary of the association, said that there had been two riots at the prison in the past year. But staff had noticed that prisoners who had been removed for causing disruption were starting to be readmitted.

But prison officers had suffered at the hands of violent inmates at a number of prisons.

One man, sentenced to 25 years, had thrown an escorting officer out of the back of a van while being transferred between prisons. "He injured his back very severely and, to my knowledge, he is still off sick after 18 months."

Mr Thomas said that one trap laid by a prisoner involved pressing an alarm bell after doctored the stairs. "One officer fell headlong."

He said particular difficulties existed if an officer went to intervene in a fight between two prisoners. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board had ruled that such an intervention was not an exceptional risk but part of the job.

The association had put forward a case saying it was an exceptional risk. Prison officers were not compensated for injuries unless exceptional risk was involved.

Mr Bartell said there were a number of prisoners who could manipulate the system in jails where the governors were weak. "What concerns us is that very frequently there are major incidents in the service but they are not sufficiently publicized by the Home Office."

The public was not aware of the violence faced by prison officers.

The association also wants the Home Office to provide clear guidance so that male staff are not vulnerable to false accusations from women prisoners who have to be stripped.

Guidelines already laid down say there may be exceptional circumstances where questions of modesty and decency have to be set aside and male officers may be required to assist in controlling or saving the life of a woman inmate who is naked or has deliberately undressed.

Mr Jim Ivory, of Puckchurch Remand Centre, near Bristol, said the policy was contradictory.

The Prison Department had ruled that male officers must not be in the sight of female inmates who, for control reasons, had to be stripped.

But Mr Ivory said that the Puckchurch Remand Centre was a mixed prison where men and women were on the same site with no fence between them, only a locked door, and women staff were so scarce that male officers had to help with women prisoners.

Unionist quits in protest

By Richard Ford

A Unionist politician, who is leaving public life in protest at the actions of the Rev Ian Paisley, dismissed the "loyalist" campaign against the Anglo-Irish agreement as a tame repetition of tactics.

Mr Jim Allister, who was Mr Paisley's personal assistant in Europe, described Unionist unity as a "self-serving charade" and said Mr Paisley had gone back on assurances he had given.

His angry denunciation of Unionist strategy and tactics is the first public statement of what many loyalists are saying in private about their campaign against the agreement.

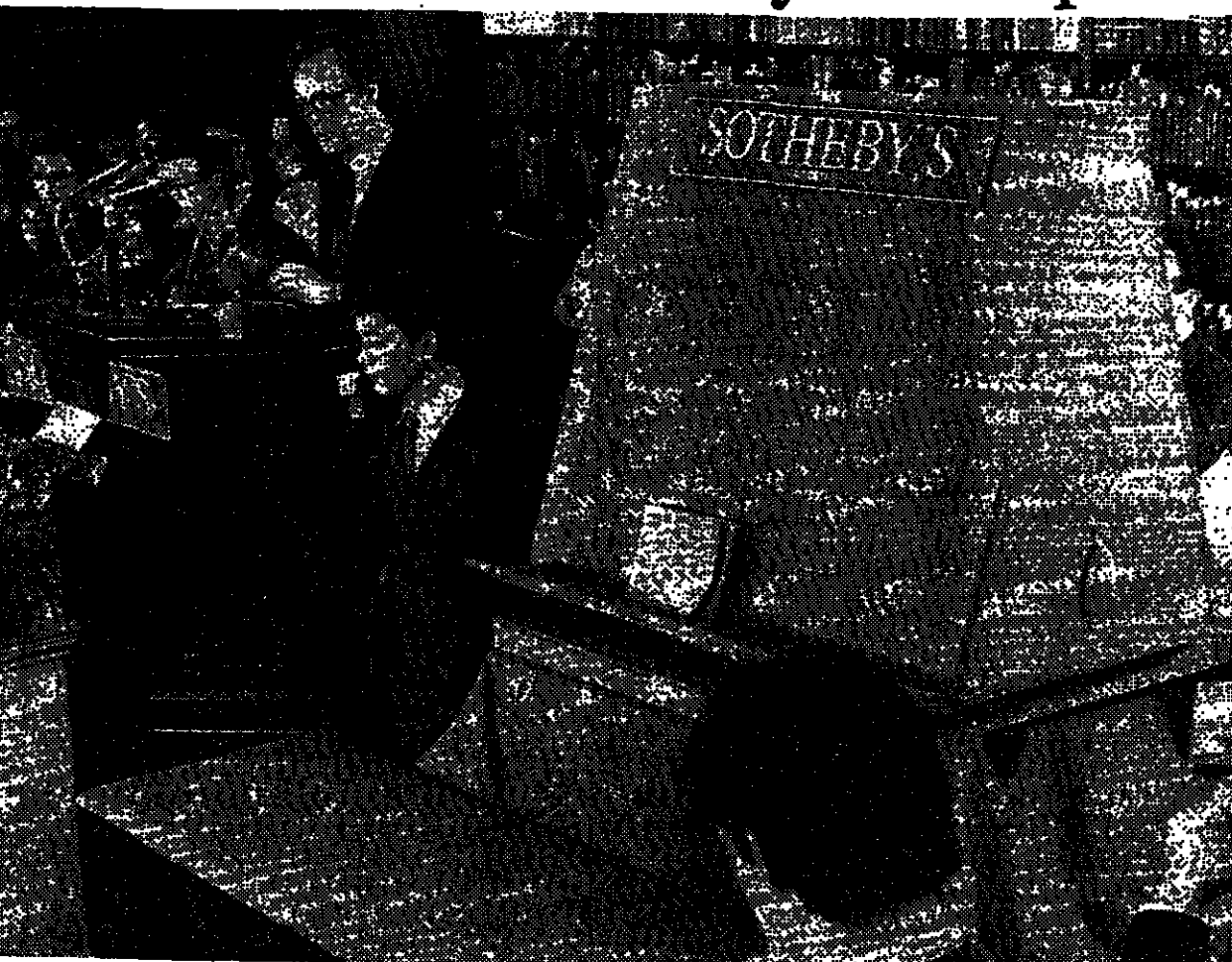
Mr Allister, a former chief whip of the Democratic Unionist Party, wanted to challenge the sitting official Unionist candidate in East Antrim but under a pact giving a free run to MPs he would have been forced to stand as an independent. Instead he quit the party, the local council and public life to return to the Bar.

He said that since March 1986 the campaign of opposition had been going downhill.

Without naming any MPs but clearly referring to Official Unionists he said: "They are dead wood, they are useless."

Mr Allister, who lost East Antrim by 367 votes in the 1983 general election, said that last September Mr Paisley had assured him that the DUP Party would put up its own candidates in safe seats in this general election. He said this approach had been abandoned without rational explanation and the DUP cowed by its leader's threat to resign, he said.

£2.5m for Mozart's tiny masterpiece



By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A scruffy paper-bound manuscript (above) containing nine of Mozart's symphonies written out in his own hand, maybe as he composed them or maybe a tidy copy, was sold by Sotheby's yesterday for £2,585,000.

No other musical manuscript has ever approached such a price. The previous high was £330,000 for Stravinsky's Rite of Spring.

Sotheby's had described it as "the most important musical manuscript to be auctioned this century". All the other

known manuscripts of his symphonies are in public collections.

These nine were gathered together by his father, Leopold Mozart. They belonged to a German music publisher, August Czanz of Hamburg, in the nineteenth century and are the source of the published versions that we know and love today.

The three most famous symphonies included in the manuscript are the Symphony No. 29 in A major, No. 25 in G minor and No. 28 in C major.

The manuscript was bought by James Kirkman, a London

dealer specializing in modern pictures. He parried a suggestion that he might have been bidding on behalf of the American oil millionaire Fred Koch whose interest has sent the value of music manuscripts through the roof in the past 10 years.

"I might have been bidding for anybody," Mr Kirkman said, as he rose to fight his way out of the sale room and escape pressing questions.

Mr Kirkman does not generally frequent Sotheby's book sales and a clerk was sent out to secure his name and address after he spent £60,500 to

secure the third movement of Mahler's second symphony 10 minutes earlier.

The bidding started at £60,000 and rose rapidly.

The underbidder was Desmond Burgess, partner in the firm of Burgess Browning, the St James's booksellers. It looked for a moment as if he had vanquished all rivals as the bidding reached £2.3 million.

Then quietly from the front row Kirkman hissed "Three-fifty". It was his first bid and the last.

(Photograph: Mark Pepper)

Vital ferry evidence may be in warehouse

By David Sapped

The missing evidence from the Herald of Free Enterprise's "black box" could be among the welter of material recovered from the ferry being stored in a Bruges courthouse, the judge heading the Belgian inquiry said yesterday.

"We do not know what is present and what is missing. We do have a roll of paper recovered from the bridge but whether it is that roll, I do not know. It has been underwater and we will have to have it treated in laboratories to see what it contains", Judge Arthur d'Hoest said.

The about-turn on the possible whereabouts of the paper roll from the bridge's engine recorder surprised both Townsend Thoresen and the Department of Transport who had both been told the evidence was missing.

Townsend Thoresen confirmed yesterday that the judge's statement represented the first official indication that the roll from the Neman Recorder - which reveals the engine speeds and manoeuvres of the Herald in its final moments - had been recovered.

Last month, the company issued a joint statement with Smit Tak, the Dutch salvage company which recovered the vessel, saying that neither firm had been responsible for its removal from the vessel.

Mr Richard Stone, QC, who is representing the Department of Transport at the London inquiry into the disaster, said: "I understood from the inquiry that this paper was missing. If we had this recording it would have told us virtually everything about the engines."

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Architect beats off challenge

By Michael Horsnell

Mr Rod Hackney, the architect friend of the Prince of Wales, has beaten off the challenge of Mr Owen Luder in the struggle for the presidency of the architects' world forum, which has split the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Mr Luder, former RIBA president and its official candidate for the International Architects Union (UIA), has withdrawn from the election.

This leaves the way clear for the election in two months of Mr Hackney who also assumes the presidency of the association in July.

The struggle for the union's presidency has ensured the two bodies since the RIBA nominated Mr Luder, while Mr Hackney, senior vice-president of the UIA, received the backing of the institute's UIA sub-committee.

RIBA's ruling council made it clear it did not want Mr Hackney to be president of both bodies.

Now Mr Luder has decided to withdraw claiming that the RIBA council would not tell his rival to stand down.

Mr Luder, aged 58, said yesterday: "I withdrew because the situation was absurd and doing great damage to RIBA, which made it clear it didn't want somebody to do both jobs at the same time."

The ruling was one of a number of guidelines laid down by the court to help the Home Office and lawyers deal with the backlog of cases.

Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice McCullough welcomed the Home Office decision to abandon the "highly undesirable" policy of not informing would-be refugees or their lawyers of the outcome of asylum applications before taking steps to remove them.

Anger at college over £10m grant

by Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

A Government offer of £10 million to a University of Wales college driven into deep debt by bad management came weeks after the Education Secretary turned down an appeal for funds from a sister college with "exemplary financial management", said the principal of a University of Wales college yesterday.

Professor Brian Morris, principal of Saint David's University College, Lampeter, launched a bitter attack on the university authorities for failing to take action over the debt-ridden University College, Cardiff and called for a complete re-organisation of the entire university so that colleges came under firmer university control.

He said that the Government's imposition of

conditions on its offer of £10 million to save the college was "a humiliation without parallel in the history of British universities".

The University of Wales, he said in his report to his college Council, had failed to act or react before and after the problems at Cardiff were made public. "For six years we have known, and for six years we have said nothing," he said.

Only weeks before making the offer to Cardiff, which is conditional on an overhaul of the college's financial running and the dismissal of its principal, Dr Bill Bevan, the Secretary of State for Education, Mr Kenneth Baker, had turned down an appeal for further funding from Cardiff's fellow college at Aberystwyth.

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"a humiliation without parallel in the history of British universities".

The University of Wales, he said in his report to his college Council, had failed to act or react before and after the problems at Cardiff were made public. "For six years we have known, and for six years we have said nothing," he said.

Only weeks before making the offer to Cardiff, which is conditional on an overhaul of the college's financial running and the dismissal of its principal, Dr Bill Bevan, the Secretary of State for Education, Mr Kenneth Baker, had turned down an appeal for further funding from Cardiff's fellow college at Aberystwyth.

He said that the Government's imposition of

conditions on its offer of £10 million to save the college was

Judgement on 'Spycatcher' is deferred

by Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Judgement was reserved yesterday in the attempt by the Attorney General to have newspapers which print details others have been banned from publishing made liable for criminal contempt.

The Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, asked the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, to decide a preliminary legal issue in criminal contempt proceedings brought against three newspapers, the *London Daily News*, the *London Evening Standard* and the *Independent*.

They are all defending his claim that they were in contempt by publishing details from *Spycatcher*, the book by Mr Peter Wright, in the knowledge that injunctions barring publication were in force against *The Guardian* and *The Observer*.

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Groom dies on wedding eve

By Andrew Morgan

A bridegroom was found dead in the bath yesterday two hours before he was due to be married in Southampton.

Mr Martin Ramsden, aged 26, is believed to have suffered an epileptic fit while having a bath at the family home of Mr Sean Blakeman, his best man. The bride, Miss Cheryl Wells, was said to be shocked and distraught.

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Alar

The death this week of a stress-induced attack of a boy aged 15 in the middle of level examinations after through the ed

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Lost hours riddle of defence scientist in 'fireball' death crash

An open verdict was recorded yesterday at an inquest into the death of a defence scientist who died in a "fireball" car crash.

But a police superintendent told the coroner at Basingstoke, Hampshire, that there were no grounds to link the death of Mr David Sands with that of other scientists working for companies in the GEC group.

Mr Sands, aged 37, from Ichen Abbas, Hampshire, was involved with a secret radar project for the Ministry of Defence when, on March 30, he apparently did a U-turn on the A33 in Hampshire on his way to work and drove his car at high speed up a slip road and into a disused cafe.

Mr John Clarke, the Hampshire coroner, said: "Why he should choose to do a U-turn, one can't explain. He was happily married and he had been successful in a difficult and demanding job working for Easams of Camberley, Surrey, who held him in high regard."

Last night, Mr John Cartwright, the Alliance spokesman on defence renewed his demand for an inquiry into the death of Mr Sands and several other scientists. "So many defence scientists have met sudden deaths that an investigation must be justified into the pressures under which they work," he said.

"Failure by the Government to act results not only in personal catastrophe, but in

the loss of much-needed expertise to the nation."

But Supt David Pearcey, head of Basingstoke police, told the inquest that he had carried out inquiries because of the speculation of links between the death of Mr Sands and those of other scientists working for GEC companies. He had liaised with all the other police forces involved but there had been no grounds to link the deaths.

Mr Graham Leech, personnel manager at Easams, said that Mr Sands was a project manager responsible for communications work that was closer to satellites than to more basic lines of communications, but he refused to give details.

The Ministry of Defence had confirmed that Mr Sands was engaged in preparatory work for a defence contract. Easams is one of the companies hoping to win the contract for UK Air, a project that will link airborne and ground radar.

The inquest was told that the only "odd" event in Mr Sands' apparently normal life was his disappearance for six hours on the Saturday two days before his death. It was so unusual that the police were called.

Mrs Anna Sands, his widow, said: "It was very out of character for him to be away so long. He was a considerate and kind man. We were very happy together."

"He was upset about his father who was, at the time, on his deathbed. He knew that he was dying and had got to that state through overwork and smoking."

Her husband had feared that he was getting caught in the rat race and might change his lifestyle so that he did not end up like his father. "But he promised to talk to me first before doing anything. He said he certainly wouldn't do anything silly like disappearing into the blue."

The coroner said that Mr Sands' concern about his father was not sufficient evidence to conclude that he committed suicide. He also dismissed the significance of two petrol cans which he said were carried in the car as a matter of normal practice.

Mr Clarke said that from the evidence before him Mr Sands had died of multiple injuries caused by the crash and that severe burns, probably caused by a fire started after the car's petrol tank ruptured, was a secondary factor.

"I would be unsafe in arriving at any suicide verdict without positive evidence that Mr Sands intended to take his life. The evidence is quite to the contrary: he left no notes, he didn't explain that he was depressed and, indeed, he seemed to be going to work in the normal way."

But the evidence "clearly excludes any foul play".



Hussein (left) and Hassan in the arms of Professor Lewis Spitz, who led the medical team (Photograph: John Rogers)

Coroners baffled by deaths

By Tony Dawe

The open verdict recorded on a defence scientist yesterday is the third time in nine months that coroners have failed to decide the cause of death in similar cases. In the same period coroners have found that two other scientists committed suicide and that a sixth suffered an accidental death.

Mr David Sands' work for Easams of Camberley, Surrey, had implications for the Star Wars programme as did the research of a Marconi computer programmer found dead beneath Clifton suspension bridge in Bristol last August.

Police can still find "no logical reason" for the death of Mr Vimal Dajibhat, aged 24,

120 miles from his London home. An open verdict was recorded at the inquest.

The same verdict was recorded earlier this year on Mr Peter Peapell, aged 46, a scientist at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham, Oxfordshire. He was found dead beneath his car in his garage after a happy evening out.

Another former Shrivenham man, Dr John Brittan, aged 52, was also found dead earlier this year in his car in his garage with the engine running. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

Seaside verdicts were recorded on two other defence scientists, who both worked

for Marconi companies. Mr Victor Moore, aged 46, took a drugs overdose at his Hampshire home because of pressure of work. But reasons for the death of Mr Ashraf Sharif, aged 26, remain a mystery. He died on a common outside Bristol after tying one end of a rope around a tree, the other around his neck and then driving off in his car.

The final element in the scientists' mystery concerns Mr Avtar Singh-Gida, aged 26, who disappeared in January while working on a Ministry of Defence project. He was seen this week working in a Paris boutique, but died before explaining why he had left home.

Costs cut to save debit card

By Tim Jones

Barclays Bank was yesterday negotiating with representatives of more than 250,000 retail outlets in an attempt to save the launch of its Connect debit card, which they are threatening to reject because of cost.

The bank said last night that it was seeking to negotiate a deal which would involve retailers using the card scheme incurring charges of "on average less than two per cent".

But Mr Richard Weir, director general of the Retail Consortium, said he doubted whether many retailers would have agreed to join the scheme by the June 3 launch date.

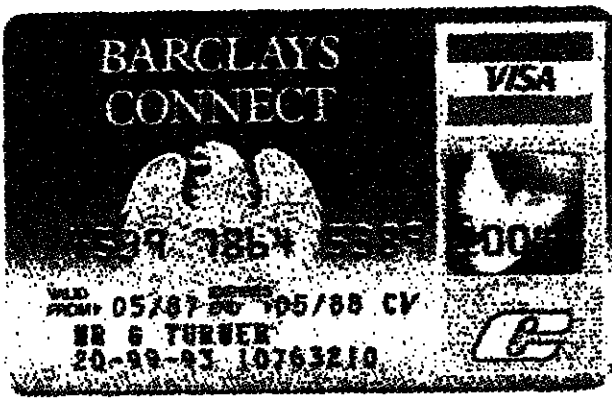
Mr Weir said the 2 per cent handling charge which Barclays had proposed levying on stores was "positively inflationary". He said that the cost of the service would have to be passed on to every customer, irrespective of whether they used the service.

sent by the consortium insist that the cost to them of handling a card transaction should be no more than the 13p they incur in processing a cheque.

The bank claims the card would make life easier for customers and retailers. Customers would present the card in payment for goods, it would be passed through a machine connected to the Barclays

central computer, and if the computer confirms that there are sufficient funds in the account, a receipt would be issued and the transaction completed.

Customers who were not overdrawn would incur no costs by using the debit card. In order to save their launch, Barclays is understood to have offered some retailers considerable financial help



Alarm over exams stress

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The death this week, apparently of a stress-induced heart attack, of a boy aged 16 who was in the middle of his O level examinations sent a shiver through the education world yesterday.

Adrian Wall, a pupil at Tottington High School, a comprehensive in Bury, Greater Manchester, collapsed on Tuesday morning, hours before he was due to write a

mathematics paper. He died the same evening.

Mr Joe Loftus, his head teacher, said yesterday: "We're shocked. Adrian did not seem to us to be the sort of boy who would suffer from nerves or anxiety."

However, heads, teachers and examination board officials all said that the boy's

death underlined the fierce and growing pressures on pupils to achieve the best possible grades in the largest number of subjects.

Mr Dick Whittaker, examinations secretary at the Joint Matriculation Board, said: "Regrettably over the past decade as unemployment has increased society has been attaching ever greater importance to exam results."

Separated but united in spirit

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Hassan and Hussein fall asleep holding hands and wake to gaze into each other's eyes. The Siamese twins, who were separated by surgeons three weeks ago, seem to hospital staff to be bound almost as closely instinctively as they once were physically.

The babies, born in Sudan last September, were joined from the middle of the breast bones to the pelvis and shared a common fragile sac around their hearts.

A bridge of liver also connected them: they shared the lower small bowel and large intestine. Each child has only one leg.

Eight surgeons and a theatre staff of almost 20 at the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, London, separated them in a delicate 12-hour operation which has resulted in healthy thriving brothers.

Professor Lewis Spitz, who led the operation, said: "They share bonds which we may never truly understand. They are remarkable boys and they are really making very good progress. There have been no problems at all."

The twin boys share the same cot in the same room and the same toys which they play with together.

"We often find them clasping each other by the hand when we first see them in the morning", Sister Naomi Lawrence said. "Sometimes they fall asleep touching the same toy. We keep them in one cot because they show signs of distress if they are not near each other."

The twins came to the hospital last November; their care and treatment was paid for by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who responded to an appeal from a relative of their parents who are school teachers.

Since the operation the boys have had no difficulties in recovering. Their scars have healed well and they have been free of infection. They have good appetites and are gaining weight. They will probably stay in hospital for weeks if not months more, receiving physiotherapy to strengthen their backs and limbs.

Later each will be fitted with an artificial leg and eventually they will be able to return with their parents to Sudan.

New head of Radio 3 Power boost for music man

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The new Controller of BBC Radio 3 is to be Mr John Drummond, who will combine the role with his current job as BBC Controller of Music.

The appointment makes Mr Drummond, aged 52, arguably the most influential musical mandarin in Britain.

It was announced yesterday by Mr Michael Checkland, director-general of the corporation, after a campaign which has left the incumbent Radio 3 controller, Mr Ian McIntyre, temporarily unemployed.

Mr McIntyre, who has run Radio 3 for eight years, has had an uneasy relationship with Mr Drummond, who was appointed two years ago. Although nominally in charge of Radio 3, Mr McIntyre's authority has been eclipsed by

Mr Drummond, whose music output has commanded 80 per cent of the schedule.

Last month, without warning, the BBC advertised the jobs of both men in *Ariel*, its staff newspaper, explaining that the posts were being combined as part of a rationalization of management.

Both Mr Drummond and Mr McIntyre have been controversial figures in the BBC, each attracting some admirers and many detractors. Few, however, dispute Mr Drummond's mastery of music.

His personal style is in contrast to the more reserved, even austere approach of Mr McIntyre, who worked for the Independent Television Authority and stood as a Conser-

vative candidate in Scotland before joining the BBC as a contract writer and producer in 1970.

Mr McIntyre was said last night to have been granted an interview next week to discuss his future with Mr Brian Wenham, managing director of BBC Radio.

Mr Wenham said last night that Mr Drummond's rise to the dual role "offers listeners the promise of an even more vigorous performance by Radio 3."

In a statement issued by the BBC, Mr Drummond said: "I relish the challenge offered by this new combined job. Radio 3 has long been the BBC's most single-minded contribution to the cultural life of the United Kingdom. We shall keep it that way."

Newton's law of motion 'dented'

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

British experimenters have produced new systems of propulsion which could eventually revolutionize space travel. It is a matter for argument whether they might also overthrow Newton's law of motion, that to every action there must be an equal and opposite reaction.

For four years Mr Sandy Kidd, aged 49, a toolfitter, worked in his garden shed in Dundee to develop his system,

and has now moved to the department of mechanical engineering at Dundee University.

Unknown to him, Mr Peter Greed, a Swindon school teacher, had been working on the same subject.

Both have used spinning gyroscopes to convert rotary momentum into linear momentum. Mr Greed said that he had used a simple device

which showed in principle that in low gravity it was possible for the device to reduce the weight of the object being propelled until there was an upthrust which would lift it.

Professor Eric Laithwaite, of Imperial College, London, the leading British academic in the field, said: "What he has to do now is to make a machine which develops a bigger force in relation to weight."

'Obsessed' woman is jailed

A "wicked and obsessive" woman who made her former doctor's life a misery was jailed for three months at the High Court in London yesterday.

Mrs Pamela Nielson, aged 40, became obsessed with Dr Jaya Rao after he refused her invitation for a drink or an Indian meal and a chat. She sent him abusive letters, followed him in her car, and threatened him.

Nielson moved out of the doctor's catchment area in Gillingham, Kent, in November 1985, and began her campaign of harassment the next year after meeting the doctor in a public house.

She attempted to forge a relationship with the doctor but he wanted nothing to do with her. Mr Justice Potts said, in October last year Dr Rao was granted an injunction forbidding her from pestering him.

But the letters and phone calls continued. They became "increasingly offensive and virulent". Nielson followed him in her car, blowing the horn outside his surgery, and once left a note outside his home saying: "Naughty boy, been out all night".

Mr Andrew Jordan, for the defence, said Nielson had been married three times, her second husband had committed suicide, and she had three children to bring up. But the judge said she was a "wicked and obsessive woman who had made the doctor's life a misery". He was satisfied there had been a flagrant breach of the order and sent Nielson, of The Maltings, Rainham, Kent, to prison for three months.

Great Tew opens treasure to new age

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

The doors open at Great Tew Park, Oxfordshire, today for a three-day public view before Christie's auctions the contents, a treasure hunter's dream.

They have kept the estate, picturesque but fallen into disrepair, closely under wraps.

The village has long been the scene of battle between its former owner's desire to keep it as a self-contained rural community, and the encroachments of the twentieth century, which have made failure inevitable.

Major Eustace Robb, who moved to Great Tew in 1952, and died in 1985, wanted to keep the smart commuters out, but the impossibility of sustaining a village on the

income from an agricultural estate defied him.

The house has reached such extreme decay that many of the contents have been removed to a number of marquees in the garden.

Yet among the objects that speak of its sad last days — chairs without seats, mottled watercolours, rusting fenders and deep accumulations of dust, which even months of work by Christie's could not disperse — there are early where reminders of the early distinction of Major Robb's forebears, the Boulton family, whose metal-working skills became the admiration of Europe.

Matthew Boulton (1728-1809) inherited his father's Birmingham button and buckle-making business in 1759 and transformed it into a showpiece factory, creating

silverware, ormolu and Sheffield plate. He counted George III and Catherine the Great of Russia among his clients.

Great Tew, bought by his son, Matthew Robinson Boulton, in 1815, stayed in the family until Major Robb left what remained of the estate — to his relatives' displeasure — to Mr James Johnson, his estate manager, who had joined him in the 1950s, and shared his concern to keep modernity out.

Major Robb's initial efforts to restore the house are reflected in surprisingly modern wallpapers and upholstery. His failure is reflected in peeling ceilings and broken furniture.

The prime interest of next week's auction lies in the furnishings supplied to Matthew Robinson Boulton in

1817 by George Bullock, the most renowned cabinet maker of the Regency period.

Mrs Johnson bravely contended this week that the dream of preserving the fabric of country life had come true.

One third of the cottages were still inhabited by estate workers, rent and rate free, she said, and spoke of her husband's agricultural success: he is president of the Aberdeen Angus breeders, and vice-chairman of the National Sheep Association, and chairman of the local branch of the National Farmers' Union.

She was waiting to welcome about 80 estate dependants for drinks in the Gothic revival library.

Christie's at Great Tew Park: viewing May 23-25 10.00am to 6.00pm; auction May 27-29 11.00am and 2.00pm.

Portfolio Gold Wonderful surprise for invalid

Mrs Dorothy Horton from New Milton, Hampshire, won yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.

Mrs Horton, who is an invalid, said it was a marvelous surprise. She is planning to spend the money on her daughter's future and a new wheelchair for herself.

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

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Blackburn
BB1 6AJ.

The MG may ride again

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

A modern MG sports car is being considered by Austin Rover in collaboration with Lotus and Chrysler, the United States' third largest vehicle producer.

Mr Graham Day, Rover Group chairman, is reported to have been "very interested" in the ambitious project to revive the MG marque, which dates back to 1923.

It is thought that a successor to the MGB, which went out of production in 1980, would be designed by Lotus, made by Austin Rover, and sold by Chrysler in North America.

Mr Bob Lutz, Chrysler's executive vice-president said yesterday that there had been talks with Lotus but those did not include plans to build an MG.

Success in the United States is vital as it is traditionally the largest single market for sports cars.

About 40,000 MG cars were exported, mainly to America, when MG production reached a record 56,000 in 1972.

Mr Day said recently he would like to see a return to a traditional MG sports car but there were no plans to do so. Austin Rover's styling department at Canley, Coventry, has worked on several ideas for small sports cars although none has yet been given approval for production.

Lotus would be well placed to design an MG as it will launch its own low cost sports car, code-named M100 in 1989. There are already links between the three companies involved. Lotus has worked on engineering projects for both Austin Rover and Chrysler.

Chrysler recently bought the Italian sports car maker, Lamborghini, and has a stake in Maserati but neither is capable of building low cost sports cars in the traditional MG mould.

Mr Alan Curtis, now Lotus chairman, attempted in 1980 to keep the MG factory at Abingdon open and build a replacement for the MGB.

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Rival recipes for crime prevention

Williams focuses attack on Labour

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

A switch of tactics by Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP president, yesterday showed the first indications of SDP alarm at the widening gap between its own vote in third place in opinion polls and that of Labour in second.

Until yesterday the Alliance had concentrated its attack on the Conservative Government and ignored the Labour Party, claiming that Mr Neil Kinnock and his team were unelectable and not worth bothering with. But at yesterday's main press conference for the Alliance Mrs Williams spent much more time attacking Labour's

record on law and order than on criticizing the Tories.

She said that robberies and burglaries had increased twice as fast since the Conservatives came to power and that last year there were 3,850,000 crimes. Detection rates had fallen to under one third. And she claimed: "In eight years the Government's failure to tackle social injustice has without doubt accelerated crime in Britain."

She then accused Labour of having policies designed "to shackle our police forces and put Labour councillors and trade unionists above the law". Basing her comments not just on the Labour manifesto but also on an earlier

policy document, *Protecting our People*, she said: "Labour policy would encourage the kind of picketing we saw in Wapping and during the miners strike." Labour's manifesto "will encourage only law breakers and bully boys".

She charged that Labour would "leave the door open for political extremists" by putting police operations under direct political control and would encourage picket-line violence by its promise to guarantee "essential freedom of workers and their unions to organize effective industrial action".

Mrs Williams also claimed that Labour would end legal liability for local councillors,

effectively giving immunity from prosecution to those who flouted civil law and the decisions of Parliament.

Labour's pledge to "ensure justice is done where miners have been unfairly dismissed", said Mrs Williams, referred back to their conference decision to re-instate miners sacked for activities during the dispute.

The Alliance, she said, was pledged to provide an extra 4,000 police to oblige the Judicial Studies Board to draw up a tariff of recommended sentences and to force judges to retire at the same age as those in other professions.

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, spoke out at the press

conference against the level of gratuitous violence on television and promised that an Alliance government would set up a Royal Commission to report "authoritatively and quickly" on the subject.

Meanwhile, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's spokesman on Home Affairs, said yesterday that Labour would put a lot more money into crime prevention. During the BBC Election Call programme he said crime now costs £10,000 million a year. "We need to give crime prevention grants for home owners or tenants, with the advice of the police, to make their homes more secure" he said.

Mr Kaufman firmly re-

jected a suggestion that Labour was prejudiced against the police. They wanted the police to enter the schools to instruct the children on road safety and other matters, and they wanted more police on the beat.

In response to a questioner who thought the greatest factor in encouraging crime was violence on television, Mr Kaufman replied: "I wish the TV authorities would be more stringent in controlling this, but I don't think TV alone was responsible for 29½ million crimes committed since Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister." Legislation was not needed.

Alliance cannot dismiss socialists as spent force

By Sheila Ginn, Political Staff

Alliance election strategists will tomorrow urge their two leaders to spread their fire to cover Mr Neil Kinnock during the next two weeks of the campaign instead of concentrating solely on Mrs Thatcher. Both Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen spent the opening week of the campaign deriding Labour as a spent force.

But Labour's threat in marginal seats which the Alliance knows it must win and the better Labour showing in the polls have led strategists to call for a change of tack. Alliance leaders will converge on London tomorrow night for a meeting of the campaign strategy committee.

Mr Steel yesterday took his campaign bus into Glasgow Hillhead, where Labour is breathing hard on the heels of Mr Roy Jenkins. Mr George Galloway will need only another 1,164 votes to oust the former SDP leader. The Liberal leader continued to write off Labour.

In a virulent assault on Thatcherism last night, he told a constituency meeting in Peckham that the Conservative manifesto contained "six real whoppers", namely:

● We are entering our seventh year of growth.
● Britain can be proud of its record on overseas aid.
● The health service is providing more and better care.
● We have upheld the rule of law.

● No government has given the environment and its conservation such a high priority.
● Inflation is at or around its lowest level for 20 years.

"Inflation is still worse in Britain than in other leading industrial powers."

Less ruffled than Dr Owen over the defence row with Mrs Thatcher, Mr Steel came into his own during question and answer sessions at Ask The Alliance rallies at Cardiff, Cambridge, and Liverpool, deemed by the Liberal camp a startling success.

Thatcher faces voters in television debate

Mrs Thatcher has agreed to take part in a television debate with voters. She will face an audience from three key marginals on the News on Monday programme on Channel 4 on June 8, three days before polling.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, will face the same audience three days earlier, and Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen, the Alliance leaders, on June 9.

The audience, a cross-section of voters selected by Harris Research, will come from the constituencies of Calder Valley in the North, Dudley West in the Midlands and Cheltenham in the South.

Mrs Thatcher had previously rejected challenges from the leaders of the other parties to take part in face-to-face television debates.

Pay idea rejected Plan for water

A national opinion poll showed last night that a massive majority of people reject the idea of a regional pay differential to encourage employment. The poll by Audience Selection was commissioned for last night's edition of the Tyne Tees television current affairs programme, *Nightline*.

When asked if people in the north should be paid less for doing the same jobs as people in the south an overwhelming 85 per cent said no. More than 1,000 electors were interviewed.

Pollution control will remain in the public sector under the Conservatives' plans for selling off the water industry. Mr Nicholas Ridley said yesterday.

The Environment Secretary said that a state-owned National Rivers Authority would be set up. This would assume regulatory and river management responsibilities such as pollution control, fisheries, drainage and flood protection, which are currently carried out by water authorities.

Piccadilly spectacle rebuffed

The BBC believes it has found another card to trump ITN on election night by using the giant electronic "Spectacular" signboard in Piccadilly Circus to flash the results of the election to the nation.

The BBC's latest computer graphics will be projected on to the £1 million, 45-square foot screen, which uses 10,000 coloured light bulbs.

The Corporation will have a camera crew on hand to relay the spectacle and the reaction of the crowds.

Doctors rebuffed

Mrs Thatcher yesterday hit back at claims by hospital doctors in a letter to *The Times* that the Conservatives had "asset-stripped" the National Health Service.

The doctors said that wards had been kept empty and waiting lists had grown. Domestic staff had been reduced, resulting in poor food and filthy hospitals.

Yesterday the Prime Minister said spending on the health service had risen under her government from £8 billion a year to £21 billion.

Thatcher warning on socialism by default

The Prime Minister gave a warning yesterday that a vote for the Alliance could lead to socialism. She flew to the North-West for her first campaigning day outside London and toured marginal constituencies.

In Hazel Grove, held by the Tories with a 2,022 majority and one of the Alliance's top target seats, Mrs Thatcher spoke outside the Conservative club, using a loud hailer to drown jeers of heckling students. She declared that anyone who did not vote Conservative risked letting in socialism "by inadvertence or default". Her remark reflected a decision by Conservative election planners to keep up the attack on the Alliance, even though Labour is improving in the polls, to remove its threat as a credible third force.

Police win support from Owen

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Dr David Owen sought to move the rising crime rate to the centre of the election stage yesterday, calling in Churchill's words for "Action This Day".

With his wife, Debbie, accompanying him for the first time in the campaign, he toured a police convalescent home in Harrogate, met victims of crime in Northumberland and declared the 32 per cent rise in violent crimes since 1979 was "the real horror of our time".

Questioned on the Alliance's ambivalence on Trident, he retorted: "I don't intend to let defence become the sole issue of this campaign." Realities of the Tories' get-rich-quick society were drugs, crime, vandalism and intolerance. Labour had made the police "the Aunt Sally of local Robespierres building their political careers on resentment to authority".



"Punk Labour is grabbing all the photo opportunities," says Dave Owen. "We have to find a way to stop our campaign slipping down the charts."

Hattersley will not show his hand on taxation changes

By Nicholas Wood
Political Reporter

The Labour Party yesterday insisted on its right to keep under wraps detailed aspects of the long-term changes it is planning in taxation.

Sources said Mr Roy Hattersley, the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, was under no more obligation to declare all his hand than Mr Nigel Lawson, his opposite number.

"Nigel Lawson will not tell us what his Budget plans are for 1991 and Roy Hattersley is not telling Nigel Lawson what his Budget plans are for 1991", one commented.

The comment was prompted by a letter sent by the Chancellor to Mr Hattersley suggesting that he planned to scrap the £295 a week earnings ceiling on employee National Insurance contributions, a move that would impose a "sharply higher burden" on

people earning more than £15,000 a year.

Someone on £400 a week would have to pay £9 a week more on top of the extra £6 a week stemming from Labour's pledge to reverse the 2p Budget tax cut, Mr Lawson said.

Yesterday Labour sources accused the Chancellor of a crude interpretation of the party's long-term proposals for tax reform set out in a

paper submitted to the annual conference last year.

They confirmed that they were still very much on the agenda but were not in the manifesto because Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, did not want to commit himself to changes that could not be delivered in the first two years of government.

Any changes to the upper limit on NI contributions would be part of a wider package of long-term reforms

to the tax structure aimed at ironing out anomalies such as the high marginal rates of taxation that apply to wage earners on £100 a week or less.

Removing the upper limit on NI payments would be accompanied by compensatory changes such as a reduced rate band for National Insurance payments or the introduction of a special personal allowance.

Labour's manifesto commits it to levying higher taxes

on people earning £26,000 a year, a move it calculates would bring in £3.6 billion a year to pay for bigger welfare.

Some 12 million people are threatened by Labour's manifesto plan to force pension funds to reduce their overseas investments to 1979 levels and divert part of the surplus into new investment and enterprise banks. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, claimed yesterday.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

The strength of the Labour performance has been the most important development in the first week of the campaign. They have gone up in most of the opinion polls. But that is not their only reason for satisfaction.

There has been a general air of professionalism in their operation. Their television election broadcast on Thursday evening was excellent. There has not been the querulousness that has so often characterized Labour's national campaigning in recent years. And Mr Kinnock strikes me as having come across well both in his press conferences and on television.

Such a good first week for Labour was by no means generally expected. When the election was called it seemed quite possible that one of its features would be the Alliance's challenge for the role of principal opposition to the Conservatives.

In a number of opinion polls at that time the Alliance had been either on Labour's shoulder or even nosing ahead in second place. Now all the polls show the Alliance well back in third position.

This good showing by Labour has implications for all three parties. They are most serious for the Alliance. It began the campaign with the obvious intention of getting its retaliation in first. In 1983 it came with a late run in the last week or so of the election. That enabled it to get within about two per cent of the Labour vote.

But the improvement came too late to have much of an effect upon many of those people who had always said that they would consider voting for the Alliance if they thought it had a chance.

A successful Alliance campaign has to be a two-stage operation. First the electorate has to be convinced that the Alliance is worth taking seriously, then that it is worth supporting. Unless the first stage is completed fairly early in the contest not enough voters will ever get round to the second.

So the Alliance strategists decided to publish policy documents and then the full manifesto before the other parties. They had hoped by the end of this week either to be ahead of Labour or at least to be polling in the high 20 per cent range.

As the Alliance is not close to either target its campaign is now badly in need of a quick stimulus. Otherwise it will simply have to rely on picking up support in the last few days once again. Alliance party managers keep reminding themselves and anyone else within earshot that that is what always happens.

But there is a double weakness in waiting for that to occur again. A late surge is always likely to be limited, and there can be no certainty that it will actually happen this time.

It is not just that the Alliance starts from a higher base in this campaign. In 1983 Mrs Thatcher's re-election seemed assured, so it was easy to appeal for Labour votes to limit the size of the inevitable Conservative majority. If this contest is closer the Alliance could get squeezed.

The implications of Labour's good week is less disturbing for the Conservatives. They remain comfortably ahead in most of the polls.

But the dangers of appearing impatient and overbearing, as Mrs Thatcher did at her press conference yesterday, are all the greater if they are being pushed by a rival who could conceivably win an overall majority.

For Labour this encouraging week is bound to be the prelude to more testing times ahead. One of the reasons why it has been creating a favourable impression is that it had previously been doing so badly that expectations were low.

The better the party does now, the more rigorously will its policies be scrutinized. That is likely to be an uncomfortable process. But Labour will continue to gather support only if it can withstand the examination calmly and effectively.

Trident may be only way to close nuclear credibility gap

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The issue of Britain's independent deterrent has produced some fascinating political pitfalls, particularly for the Alliance. There are still potentially embarrassing question marks over their nuclear strategy.

The latest chink in their anti-Trident armour was revealed when Dr David Owen admitted that he would listen to the chiefs of staff before deciding on a ballistic or non-ballistic missile to replace Polaris. Trident has not been ruled out, it seems.

However, there are some crucial questions. When Mrs Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979, the chiefs of staff were asked to carry out a comprehensive study of all the options for replacing Polaris in the mid-1990s.

The study took 18 months and included sea-launched and air-launched cruise missiles, a British-designed weapon system, and collaboration with France.

The unanimous recommendation was that Trident was the only missile to meet the Government's target and credibility requirements. In other words, would it hit Moscow and would it get past the perceived Soviet anti-ballistic missile defences in the 1990s?

That remains the verdict of the chiefs of staff today, and Dr Owen must be fully aware of the fact. But an independent deterrent is as much a

political weapon as a military one.

Mrs Thatcher wanted a deterrent for the 1990s that would be as credible as Polaris is now. It was not a question of going for the best and the biggest. Trident was the only weapon system that fitted the Conservative Government's assessment of the appropriate deterrent.

If an Alliance government said they agreed with the

ISSUES

THE DETERRENT

Conservative assessment and wished to follow the same targeting policy, but without Trident, the chiefs of staff would be duty bound to advise that other options, such as sea-launched cruise missiles, would just not measure up.

But if the Alliance proposed to adopt a different level of deterrence, discounting Moscow as a target, the chiefs of staff would be in a position to advise on a wider range of options. The RAF, for example, might be very keen to go for the idea of equipping Tornados with the French nuclear-armed air-launched cruise missile, called ASMP.

Labour would be faced with a whole range of problems. They are committed to cancelling Trident but at what point would they do it? The pace of expenditure on Trident is now

accelerating fast and even though the second submarine has not yet been ordered, a lot of preliminary work has already begun at the Vickers yard in Barrow.

There is no point beyond which Trident cannot be cancelled, but the longer the decision is delayed the more expensive it will become and the more difficult it will be to adapt the submarines already being built for some other use.

With £1 billion spent so far and an estimated £600 million more by the end of this financial year, time means wasted money.

The other question for Labour is when to de-commission Polaris. Under the Government's timetable, the Polaris deterrent will remain in force until 1994/95, when Trident will enter service over a phased period.

With a credible deterrent at minimum cost available to Labour for a full term of office, I suspect that even Mr Neil Kinnock would be sorely tempted to hang on to it for as long as possible, particularly since the chiefs of staff will warn him that while the cancellation of Trident would not in itself be too crucial a factor, a totally denuclearized Britain would have a devastating effect on the Nato alliance and on East-West relations.

Whatever the Labour manifesto says, a unanimous warning by the chiefs of staff could not be ignored.

Defectors from both ends likely to help the middle

By Roland Rudd

The Carshalton Conservative Association suffers from bigots and zealots who indulge in internecine warfare. Not Labour smear tactics, nor Alliance innuendo, but the words of its Conservative candidate and former MP, Mr Nigel Forman.

Last year the Conservatives lost control of the borough of Sutton, in south-west London, to the Alliance. In a confidential letter to the Prime Minister, Mr Forman blamed his local officers. The contents were leaked and local Conservatives exploded in anger.

Several attempts to deselect Mr Forman failed. But when the election was called last week five of the seven senior officers took their revenge on the beleaguered MP by resigning.

Mr Forman, an MP for 11 years, is a confident and energetic campaigner. There is no doubting his support among loyal Conservatives. But Alliance posters have started to go up and former Labour voters are thinking of voting SDP to keep out the Tories.

The SDP/Alliance candidate, Mr John Grant, a former Labour MP for 13 years and communications officer for the electricians' union, feels at home canvassing the working class estates of St Helier.

Despite a Conservative majority of 10,755, Carshalton is one of the SDP's top targeted seats. In the 1986 council elections the Alliance took an

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

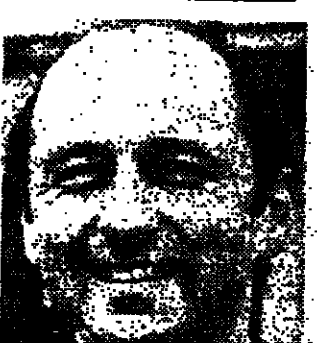
Carshalton

CANDIDATES
F. N. Forman (C)
J. Grant (SDP/All)
Mrs J Baker (Lab)
R. Steel (Grn)

1981 % Own occ. 50.6
1981 % Loc Auth 58.7
1981 % Black/Asian 3.5
1981 % Mid c 61.6
1981 % Prof man 19.2
1986 electorates 69,973

1983 General Election: Forman, F.N. (C), 25,396; Ennor, J. (SDP), 14,641; Baker, Mrs J. (Lab), 8,655; Steel, R. (Grn), 784. May 10, 1986.

Key: % own occ: proportion owning their homes; % Loc Auth: proportion of council tenants; % Black/Asian: proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid c: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: professionals & higher management.



Mr Forman: Opposed by some local Tories

extra 20 seats to win control. In the constituency their support went up to 36 per cent, three behind Conservative and 12 in front of Labour.

If the Labour vote crumbles, the seat could fall to the Alliance. If it remains solid the Conservatives will hold on. Mr Grant is drumming that message out loudly and clearly.

If the posters are anything to go by, it has already sunk in. Gold Alliance posters displayed in windows are the only sign of political life in the Labour wards of St Helier North and South. "We have been Labour all our lives", one couple said, "but we are going to vote Alliance to get Maggie out".

This is not pleasing the Labour Party, which takes great pride in its middle-of-the-road image. Its candidate, Mrs Joan Baker, is a warm affectionate woman who is relieved that the dreaded "loony left" image has not hit Carshalton.

At 6 per cent the Carshalton unemployment figure is just under half the national average. Education and health are the main issues. Sutton is one of few councils in England which still operate a grammar school system. The Alliance plans to end selective education.

All parties agree that the result will be close. The problem for Labour is persuading its supporters not to defect to the Alliance.

Labour refuses to rule out shallow-site nuclear dumping

By Nicholas Wood
Political Reporter

The Government's surprise decision to drop plans for shallow-site disposal of nuclear waste might be reversed by a future Labour administration, it was disclosed yesterday.

Dr David Clark, Labour's spokesman on environmental protection, said that on taking office he would bring together a team of expert advisers, trade unionists and environmentalists to review ways of dumping radioactive debris

and make a recommendation within 18 months.

"It may well be that we find a shallow trench is the best way of dealing with it. We don't have the information at the moment so we are not prepared to make any commitments", he said.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, told MPs on May 1 that the search for a potential dumping site at Bradwell, Fulbrook, Elstow and South Killingholme had been called off in favour of disposing of all

nuclear waste in a deep site yet to be identified.

He said that the decision had been taken after Nirex, the nuclear waste disposal agency, had concluded that shallow sites were no cheaper than deep ones.

But Dr Clark yesterday attacked the motives behind the Government's decision. He claimed that it had been taken for electoral reasons, not scientific or economic ones. If re-elected the Conservatives might again change their minds.

"I do not foresee a Labour

government wishing to use one of those four sites, but we would be guided by our experts, who would include environmentalists, on the course of action that would proceed."

Dr Clark was speaking at a press conference in London at which he launched his party's plans to create a "green and clean" Britain under the supervision of a new ministry of environmental protection.

He accused the Government of making Britain the "dirty man of Europe". Labour would relax borrowing

limits on local councils and water authorities as part of a 10-year clean-up programme.

The nuclear industry will be closed down within five years if Labour wins the election. Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday.

Mr Walker said that a Labour victory would pave the way for Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, to push through union demands for the closure of the industry within the lifetime of the next Parliament.

Dr David Clark's review options for nuclear waste.

ELECTION 87 X

Livingstone vision of a 'most radical' Labour government

By Mark Ellis and Michael Dynes

Mr Ken Livingstone, doyen of the Labour left and ogle of the Tory faithful, yesterday outlined his vision for Britain under an incoming Labour government.

He was speaking as Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, dismissed claims about the latent influence of the hard left within the party.

Mr Livingstone, former leader of the Greater London Council and Labour candidate for the constituency of Brent East in north-west London, said he wanted to do nationally what the GLC had attempted to achieve for the capital.

He said that he would expect the Labour Party dramatically to reduce the power of central government.

"Those great, grey bureaucracies based in Whitehall should be broken down and the powers released to strong full-time local councils with responsibility for the police, health service and education.

"It will be the most radical government since 1945. We are committed to taking the Labour manifesto and making sure we get it right and delivering it to the people," he said.

Mr Livingstone said Labour promised an expansion of public services, and accused Mrs Thatcher of vilifying public sector employees as "parasites" while extolling the private sector as wealth creators.

Tory plans to replace the rating system with a poll tax were branded as disastrous for most people.

He said that the unfairness would give offence if "someone in the City earning £150,000 a year and snorting cocaine all day paid as much as a road sweeper or hospital cleaner".

Mr Livingstone emerged relaxed and confident from his constituency headquarters to visit the Central Middlesex Hospital where he waited some time for a handful of nurses and ancillary workers to hear his spirited defence of the health service.

He was helped by Mr Paul Boateng, Labour candidate for the neighbouring constituency of Brent South.

"Lies, lies, lies," Mr Livingstone said before he was even asked about stories in popular newspapers that the hard left was preparing to usurp the moderate Kinnock leadership on taking office.

He criticized the election announcement as a "mad dash to the polls during a spurious economic boom whipped up for the election".

Mr Livingstone had begun the day by refusing to speak to *The Times* on the grounds that he was continuing the boycott of News International newspapers which was ended in February by the Labour Party.

He abandoned the boycott after a determined taxi driver carrying *The Times* had defeated attempts by the candidate and his entourage to escape an interview.

Mr Kinnock insisted yesterday that the "loony left" had no influence in the Labour Party as he brushed aside the latest controversy involving Mr Livingstone.

The episode followed remarks, allegedly by Mr Livingstone, that Labour left wingers had deliberately kept quiet in recent months in order not to rock the boat.

He was reported as saying that the new intake of Labour MPs after the election would represent the most radical group of Parliamentarians the party had ever. Mr Kinnock said: "On the basis of the information available the words attributed to Mr Livingstone were not even used, certainly not by Mr Livingstone."

Foot returns to hustings in such 'a nice suit'

Nudging a swing with tea and chat

By Philip Jacobson

When Mr Michael Foot stepped out of a car in Bridgend the other day an elderly woman remarked how nice it was to see him looking so fit.

"Nice suit too," she observed as the man who led Labour to overwhelming defeat at the 1983 election returned to the hustings for the first time in the present campaign.

"Always delighted to be back in Bridgend," he responded with a jaunty wave of that familiar knobby walking stick, before pinning an enormous party rosette on his well-cut tweed lapel.

Pleasantries concluded, Mr Foot could hardly wait to begin the business of encouraging the modest swing against the Tories — "less than two per cent" — that would send Labour's Mr Wyn Griffiths to Westminster.

First stop was the Troed Y Ton old people's home, funded, Mr Foot wished us to know, by a very caring local authority.

There could not have been many votes to be won there, but he chatted with patience and warmth to elderly widows of miners and long-red steel workers, some of them confused by the sudden fuss.

To the resident character, Mrs Agnes Newbury, aged 91, he gently explained that he was "helping the Labour party to help deserving people like you".

Down the road at another home for the elderly, Mr Foot took tea and listened without condescension to half-remembered stories of Bridgend when the town had boasted some dozen coal mines (the last one was closed a year ago).

Sent on his way with a tremulous reading of "Michael row the boat ashore" and a bunch of scarlet tulips, Mr Foot seemed lost in thought for a moment, genuinely moved, it appeared.



Mr Michael Foot, the former Labour leader, canvassing for Mr Wyn Griffiths in the marginal constituency of Bridgend (Photograph: Dennis Stephens).

Oscar team turn to politics

By Stephen Foster

After years of suffering in silence as the Tories, recently via Saatchi and Saatchi, have been able to monopolize the paid-for media, Labour is fighting back. They have discovered The Candidate.

So has the Alliance, as last night's broadcast built around Mrs Rosie Barnes demonstrated. But it is the Kinnock broadcast which is the most striking change of style and which held so much attention on Thursday night.

The writer Colin Welland and director Hugh Hudson, the *Chariots of Fire* team, are behind the Labour TV campaign. The ad campaign will highlight Mr Kinnock as a nice, committed, responsible and engaging chap. In the sales pitch, rough and ready politics will not be allowed in. In the broadcasts Mr Kinnock will be the acknowledged master of all he surveys. Just like an US presidential candidate, in fact.

If Thursday's first film is an accurate guide, the emphasis will be placed on personal qualities ahead of politics, through a strong emotional content and appeal. Welland and Hudson's first effort managed to stay just the right side of glitzy. But it was slow to get going. The *Jaws*-style music behind the 'Neil routs Militant' sequence was splendidly capped by a cut to the shark himself, a beeking Mr Derek Hutton.

The Tories' problem is, where to go from here — or rather, there. Their performance under the tutelage of the Saatchis has been so impeccable, and used up so many available alternatives, that finding a new creative treatment is likely to be a problem.

Their first effort was an unashamed appeal to patriotism. I reckon that the viewers' verdict on that effort is: "If we're going to vote you in again — which we probably will — at least come up with something new."

Stephen Foster is a contributor to *Campaign* magazine and a Director of the Editorial Company.

Promises for a wasteland

By Gavin Bell

The merchant shipping industry was in a crisis, with fewer than 6,000 employees throughout the UK. A new effort was required to produce orders from the public sector and to help British shipbuilders compete on equal terms.

"There is a reservoir of skill and talent in this area, which has suffered badly from the run-down of industries like shipbuilding. We want to get the people with these skills usefully employed."

Moving on to the derelict remains of a car plant at Linwood, Mr Smith termed it an object lesson in government neglect.

Mr John Smith, Opposition spokesman for trade and industry, took full advantage of the scenario when he took his campaign to the Firth of Clyde. Surrounded by attentive trade union officials, Mr Smith said at Greenock that the Government had halved the cash coming in to Scotland since 1979.

"I remember the day manufacturers from Taiwan, South Africa and East Germany came here to pick up at auction machine tools which they are now using against us in overseas markets. It is a scandal," he said.

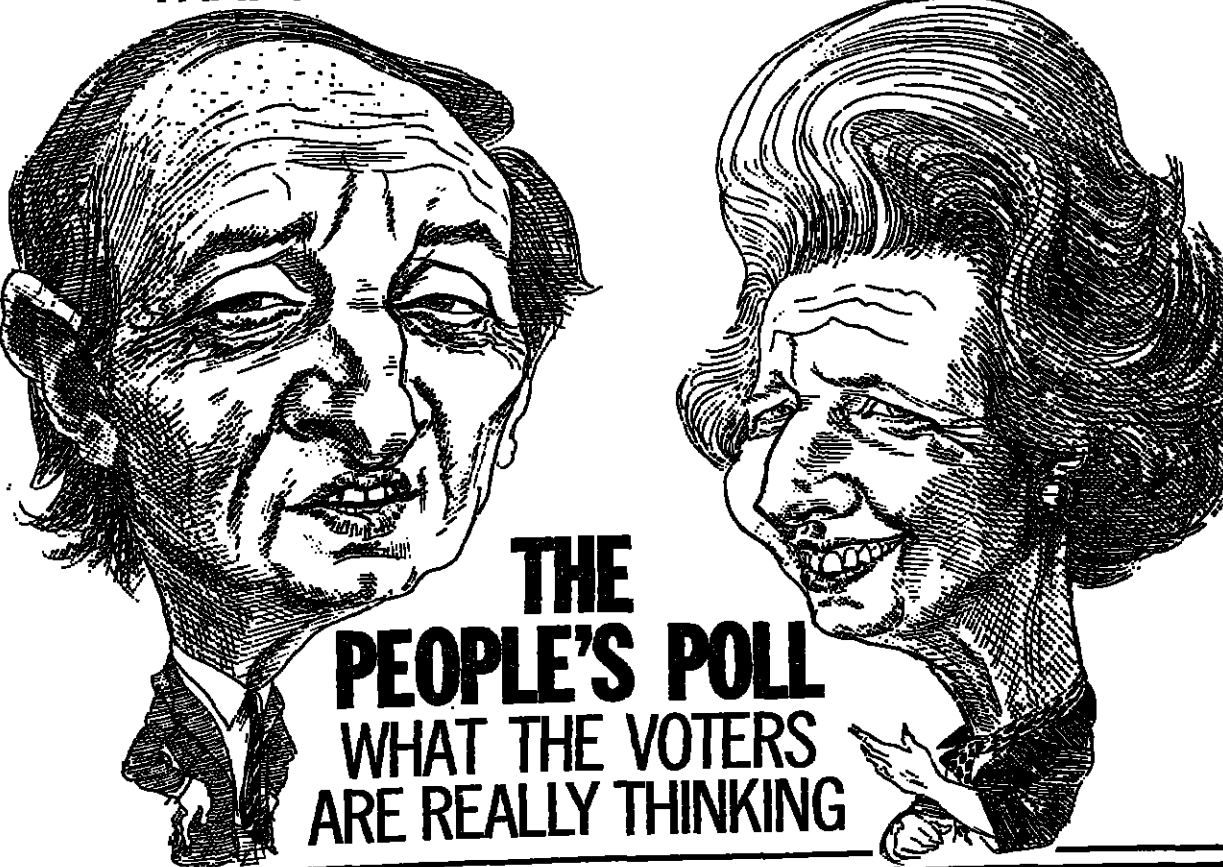
A Labour government would require two terms of office to effect a full recovery, he said.

"We have a two year emergency programme to get unemployment down fast, and a five year plan to start the revival of industry. But I think it will take us ten years to get the manufacturing industry really on its feet."

ELECTION SPECIAL:

OPENING SHOTS IN THE BATTLE FOR NO.10

LABOUR'S EXOCET: THE SLICK CAMPAIGN MACHINE THAT'S TAKEN EVERYONE BY SURPRISE



THE PEOPLE'S POLL
WHAT THE VOTERS ARE REALLY THINKING

WHY LABOUR COULDN'T TAME THE UNIONS

By Bernard Donoghue, senior adviser to two Labour Prime Ministers



HOW DENNIS CONNER GOT HIS OWN BACK

The man who lost and won the America's Cup tells his own story
EXCLUSIVE

THE PLIGHT OF THE BUMBLEBEE



Help keep the bumblebee aloft: join in our Watch Humble Bumble Survey

FASHION BY POST

More and more people are making sure they're properly addressed



THE SUNDAY TIMES

Better than a month of other Sundays

WORLD SUMMARY

Harare police hold TV crew

Harare — Two Harare-based World Television News crewmen, Mr Tony Liddell, aged 36, and Mr Paul Hughes, aged 34, were arrested by security police here yesterday (Jan Raath writes).

It was unclear why they were being held, but a warrant for a search of Mr Liddell's home in the suburb of Borrowdale and his suburban office listed "arms of war and subversive documents".

They travelled extensively in southern Africa, Mr Liddell as a WTN producer-cameraman and Mr Hughes as his sound technician. Eye-witnesses of the arrest said a group of about 15 men, led by an officer of the Law and Order branch of the CID and accompanied by several armed soldiers, had arrived at Mr Liddell's home.

Radio set off bomb Singapore appeal

Johannesburg — An ordinary "walkie-talkie" radio transmitter was used to trigger the car bomb that killed three white policemen and injured 15 other people here on Wednesday (Ray Kennedy writes).

Police said yesterday that it was found dumped in a street plant-holder about 100 yards from where the bomb exploded. A police electronics specialist said the transmitter had been expertly modified.

Heart to heart talk

Baltimore (AFP) — A heart transplant patient and his donor, a cystic fibrosis victim who underwent a heart-lung transplant, met for the first time 12 days after undergoing the historic surgery. The donor, Mr Clinton House, aged 28, and recipient Mr John Couch, aged 38, exchanged greetings and asked each other how they felt in the 15-minute meeting in Johns Hopkins Hospital. Both are in satisfactory condition.

Mr House, who suffers from cystic fibrosis and whose lungs were nearly destroyed, received a heart and lungs from a car accident victim. Mr House agreed to donate his healthy heart to Mr Couch, who had congestive heart failure.

Poll delay sought Divorce progress

Manila (Reuters) — The Philippine election commission yesterday asked President Aquino to postpone local elections in August because of mounting complaints of fraud in a national congressional poll. The commission proposed that local elections should be held next February, to mark the second anniversary of the revolt that gave Mrs Aquino power.

Hunt for gunman Garrison discussed

Basle (Reuters) — Swiss police are seeking a Frenchman suspected of shooting at the wife of the French consul here with a hunting rifle. The consul's wife, who hid behind a pillar in her garden, was unhurt. The man escaped by car, a police spokesman said. The police said that the man had previously threatened the consul.

French funfair battle

Paris — Violent clashes between French police and travelling fair operators broke out yesterday at the giant Mirapolis amusement park, north of Paris, which was opened by the Prime Minister on Wednesday (Susan MacDonald writes).

It was invaded by more than 100 funfair operators and their families who allegedly set about ransacking the park, cutting electric cables, putting sand in the machinery and detergent in the fountains. Police trying to stop the vandals were engaged in a two-hour pitched battle. Thirteen people were injured in the clashes.

Village unified by Israeli threat

From Juan Carlos Gumucio, Kfar Tibnit, Lebanon

Only a few residents of this Shia Muslim hamlet appeared impressed by the fact that rival Lebanese leaders — in a rare gesture of unity — yesterday were calling for urgent international action to stop what they feared was an imminent Israeli punitive operation.

They had heard that the people of the adjacent village of Arnoun had been ordered by the Israeli Army to leave their homes within 48 hours because they were to be completely demolished.

From the small cemetery of Kfar Tibnit that separates the two villages, it is not difficult to imagine what an easy task it would be to erase Arnoun from the map.

The Israelis and their allies of the mainly Christian "South Lebanon Army" militia maintain three major artillery positions that dominate the town of Nabatieh and a chain of hamlets on the fringes of Israel's occupation zone in southern Lebanon.

Despite the national outcry that the alleged threat had provoked, there were only a few — yet alarming — signs of activity on the ground.

Youths gathered in corners to watch the grey puffs of smoke that rose from behind the ruins of the Beaufort Castle, the Crusaders' fortress that had become a Palestinian guerrilla stronghold until 1982 and whose massive structure protects Israeli soldiers and SLA militiamen.

Some theorized that the smoke came from Israeli tanks taking position. Others said they were ready to bet it came from bulldozers razing houses nearby or erecting new fortifications as part of a

major Israeli military build-up in the south after an increase of guerrilla attacks.

Kfar Tibnit, like many other villages, has learnt to live with uncertainty and fear. The village's main street has long been cut by snipers entrenched in the surrounding hills, and joint SLA and Israeli patrols have come down to blow up houses after every attack by guerrillas.

At least eight houses were blown up in the past two days, according to residents of Kfar Tibnit and ill-armed Shia Muslim Amal militiamen guarding the outskirts of Arnoun.

Israeli military sources have acknowledged that, but have denied any intentions to demolish the village in retaliation for guerrilla activity there. Nevertheless, the threat, as portrayed by Mr Rida Marouni, Arnoun's *mukhtar* (mayor), has been taken unusually seriously.

Hours after Mr Marouni sent an alarming telegram to authorities in Beirut saying he was personally told by the Israelis that his home town was to be destroyed, Mr Nabih Berri, the leader of Amal and Lebanon's Justice Minister, took the unusual step of calling President Amin Gemayel and asked for help. Mr Berri, who is one of the President's main foes, specifically requested him to contact the American Ambassador in the hope that US pressure on Israel could save Arnoun. The Christian President went even further and was said to have instructed Mr Rashid Fakoury, his Ambassador to the United Nations, to request "swift Security Council action".

Light relief from footsoldiers in Irangate drama

As in any tragedy, it is the minor characters who usually provide comic relief.

The past week's testimony from the footsoldiers and swabblers in the Iran-Contra escapade has yielded a rich harvest of pantomime farce: the courier, Mr Robert Owen, nicknamed "T.C." with his stories of men in Chinese markets producing wads of money from their trouser legs; the humourless Señor Adolfo Calero, the Contra leader, unable to explain why cheques he sent Lieutenant-Colonel Ollie North ended up in Safeway supermarkets and paying for snow tyres; the crew-cut former Army general with his sub-thumping personal crusade to stem the spread of communism; the clutch of millionaires who kept the Contras in business, with a spy old lady from Texas getting her hand pumped by the President for sending off \$2 million.

In Watergate, it was the minor characters who eventually illuminated the path to the White House door. The ill-sorted cast in this week's instalment of Irangate have similarly brought the White



General Singlaub adjusting his glasses during the hearings.

House and its incumbent into view.

President Reagan has been ever present at the hearings: if not as the instigator, at least as the inspiration for the entire Contra effort. And the door to the White House "basement" was ever open, with the

frantic Colonel North racing about organizing the show.

Colonel North was clearly a larger-than-life figure. To some, he is almost a saint. The committee listened with a certain incredulous embarrassment to a "poem" of praise read for the record by the slim, cherubic-looking Mr Owen.

"We've held the hands of our gallant fighters and prayed with them and for them as their life's blood seeps slowly into the dark, damp earth of the jungle. . . . We began. 'We have a burning desire to strike back at those whose intent is to enslave us, to try to stem the tide that threatens to overwhelm us. . . . Ollie, your enemies are more clever and more treacherous than you, yet you have given all you had to give. . . . We have so little to give in return.'"

Sophomoric, was the biting comment of the cynics who listened. Naive, was the judgement when Mr Owen related his trip to the Chinese market in New York. Sidling up to a shady character, he gave a code name like "Mooney". The man promptly disappeared behind a counter, unrolled his trouser leg and

handed over a wad of notes. Back in the taxi Owen counted \$9,500.

It all went in envelopes to and from Colonel North's safe. Mrs Ellen Garwood, who sat like widow Twanky at the same witness table two days later, certainly kept the funds topped up. She gave most of her money to Mr "Spitz" Channell, the fund-raiser who has already pleaded guilty to fraud. He worked

Washington View

By Michael Binyon

in tandem with Colonel North to soften the hearts of the donors. They used to meet in the cocktail lounge of a smart Washington hotel. Colonel North would tell her how desperate things were in the Nicaraguan jungle.

And when he had gone — the legal ban on solicitation barely preserved — Mr Channell, a private citizen, would then talk cold cash.

Major-General Singlaub was the action man in all this. He saw Colonel North in a much tougher light. He travelled round the world — South Korea, Taiwan, the jungles

of Central America — to get the cash and buy the weapons. But he did not know about the mark-ups, the secret Swiss bank accounts.

Nor, it seems, did Señor Calero. In fact, he had difficulty — diplomatic or real — remembering anything. He did hand over a lot of money, \$90,000 and volunteer his own services to help rescue the US hostages in Lebanon. *Quid pro quo*, perhaps. Colonel North took the money and politely sidestepped his offer to go to Lebanon.

The committee had done its homework, however, and looked at the back of the cheques to see where they went. Some were cashed at grocery stores.

Was the incorruptible Colonel North playing fast and loose with the money? Señor Calero was, as often, at a loss for words. One senator was especially puzzled at the purchase of snow tyres. "When was the last time it snowed in Nicaragua?" he asked.

Señor Calero missed the irony. "Well sir, it does not snow in Nicaragua." Even the committee members laughed. They too needed some moment of light relief.

Kohl unworried by 'go it alone' threat from US on arms talks

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany said yesterday that he had no reason to take any notice of hints that the United States was threatening to go it alone if its European allies failed to reach a common position on the elimination of nuclear missiles from the Continent.

Speaking at the end of two days of talks with President Mitterrand and M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, he stated that he had spoken to President Reagan on the telephone a few days ago and there was no indication that the President would go back on his word that he would take the West German position into account during US-Soviet talks on the elimination of medium and shorter-range nuclear missiles from Europe.

This position, he added, would be made known next week, when he planned to make a statement in the Bundestag.

West Germany, he said, had more arms and soldiers on its territory than any other country in the world and this gave it a particular responsibility in coming to any decision on a nuclear arms agreement.

The Chancellor said: "I do not want to be accused of opportunism by taking the easy decision. The decision taken must be the right decision. However, we are now in the happy position, I think, of seeing a US-Soviet nuclear arms agreement before the end of this year."

He said that it was a good thing to eliminate these medium-range missiles and he praised the US-Soviet initiative to seek an agreement on shorter-range missiles. But, he said, disarmament must be linked with reinforced security

Mitterrand said, with regard to a European defence force, that France and West Germany continuously held joint military manoeuvres and that this was a situation that was continually evolving.

Referring to rumours that France might extend its independent nuclear deterrent umbrella to cover West Germany once US missiles were dismantled, Chancellor Kohl said that France's nuclear deterrent policy was important for the whole of Europe and he was sure that the French would take their neighbours into account when taking decisions on defence.

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Nazi victims at Lyons



Mme Lise Lesèvre, left, a former French Resistance member interrogated for 19 days by the Gestapo officer, Klaus Barbie, arriving at Lyons Palais de Justice to testify against him, and Mme Simone Lagrange, who was 13 when she was tortured by the Nazis in 1944.

Cases of Aids near 50,000

Geneva (Reuters) — The World Health Organization (WHO) said yesterday that 49,677 cases of Aids had been reported by 112 countries.

The figure was up from 48,527 on May 4. The latest figure was for cases reported as of May 20.

Experts estimate that about half of the victims have died. The United States has reported 35,518 cases. France has reported the second highest number of Aids cases

(1,221), followed by Uganda (1,138) and Tanzania (1,130). Britain has reported 750 cases.

WHO experts also estimate there are five million to 10 million Aids carriers.

Meanwhile, international organizations have promised \$16 million (£9.5 million) to help fight Aids in Uganda, whose Health Minister says many more people probably have the disease than the 1,138 cases already confirmed.

Mr Robert Gallo of the US National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, told Sweden's national news agency that scientists were researching a "cocktail" of vaccines to fight the 50 or so varieties of the virus.

Mr Gallo said the US State Department that evidence would be handled government-to-government, without individual Israeli officials having to testify in a foreign court or legislature.

The subpoena move has angered Israel, which says it has an understanding with the State Department that evidence would be handled government-to-government, without individual Israeli officials having to testify in a foreign court or legislature.

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Aftermath of the Fiji coup attempt

Hawke rejects compromise Chiefs raise review problems

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

The Australian Government yesterday clearly indicated that it was not prepared to accept a compromise in Fiji which disadvantaged the Indian population.

It rejected as unacceptable the new power arrangements worked out in Suva.

Senator Gareth Evans, the acting Attorney-General, said the Australian Government would refuse to recognize the new arrangements as they were completely deficient in their failure to reinstate Dr Timoci Bavadra as the legitimate Prime Minister.

Senator Evans said that they were unacceptable as a matter of principle as they elevated to the position of *de facto* prime

minister the leader of an illegal assault on the democratic process.

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, said that Australia had not said that the new

Delhi — In an attempt to have Fiji's constitution restored and the Bavadra Government put back into power, India is sending today two junior ministers to visit Australia and New Zealand and Britain for discussions on joint action (Michael Hamlyn writes).

arrangement in Fiji was a government and there was "no way you can say it is government".

He said that Australia

would not give aid or comfort to those who had usurped the authority of an elected government.

"We are not changing from our position that the only legitimate government is the Government of Dr Bavadra and that the proper course of action is, if there are to be new elections, to be in consultation with Dr Bavadra and under the existing constitutions."

It was revealed yesterday that Australia had refused the request from Dr Bavadra for military assistance.

However, the Australian Government had offered the Fijian leader accommodation in the Australian High Commission in Suva.

From Stephen Taylor, Suva

A review of Fiji's British-drafted constitution could embroil the Queen in a host of new difficulties as her former South Seas possession starts to pick its way back to formality.

A formula which emerged yesterday to reconcile Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the Governor-General, and Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka, the leader of last week's attempted coup, has as one of its main planks a constitutional review to examine Melanesian concerns about political supremacy by the ethnic-Indian majority.

However, the constitution can only be amended by an Order in Council by the Queen, which needs the sup-

port of three-quarters of the Fiji Parliament. And the last parliament was dissolved by Ratu Ganilau earlier this week, pending the constitutional review and a new election.

The stipulation for amendments was designed specifically to protect the rights of ethnic groups which might be at risk.

But as the events of the past week have demonstrated, pressure among ethnic Melanesians for change is intense. Although the Fijian people have just emphatically upheld their loyalty to the Queen through the Great Council of Chiefs, the constitutional issue could further muddy the waters.

With the words "God Save the Queen", Ratu Ganilau broadcast to Fiji last night that he was in full command of government, and that the military regime of Colonel Rabuka had been dismantled.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rabuka's bid for the allegiance of Fiji's traditional rulers failed with the rejection by the chiefs of the Council of Ministers which he named after the coup attempt.

But the formula for the restoration of constitutional rule, which emerged at the end of the fourth day of the chiefs' meeting, has only been accomplished at great cost to the administration of Dr Timoci Bavadra, who was deposed in last week's coup attempt.

King Mswati is known to have been unhappy both with the abuse of tradition by the Ligozo and its growing influence.

The arrests yesterday are seen as part of his determination to restore the aged Queen Dzeliwe to her former dignity.

One of his first acts after his coronation was to dismiss the Ligozo and in October he finally got rid of Prince Bhekimphe.

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Swazi King takes control

Princes to be charged with treason

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Two princes, two princesses and a former Prime Minister have been arrested in a police swoop in Swaziland ordered by King Mswati, the former Shobhane public schoolboy.

The arrests are a further indication that the King, aged 21, has taken firm control of Swaziland's absolute monarchy and is following his aim of blending the old traditions of the kingdom — which the Prince of Wales visited in March — with the requirements of modern times.

In a brief statement in Mbabane, the capital, yesterday Mr Sotja Dlamini, who was appointed Prime Minister by the King last October, said that 12 people had been arrested in connection with

political events in August, 1983.

Although he did not give names they are known to include Prince Bhekimphe Dlamini, who was dismissed as Prime Minister by the King last October, Prince Phiwokwakwe Dlamini, the Minister of Labour, and three senior traditional leaders besides the two other princes and two princesses who are all members of Swaziland's vast Dlamini royal family.

The Times of Swaziland said that the former Prime Minister and Labour Minister would be charged with high treason and sedition and the others with sedition.

King Mswati came to the throne after the death in 1982

of his father, King Sobhuza II, but absolute power was at first invested in Queen Dzeliwe as Queen Regent.

During the next 12 months a bitter struggle for power developed between factions of the Dlamini family culminating in August, 1983, with Queen Dzeliwe being stripped of her power by the Ligozo, the Council of Tribal Elders, which had transformed itself from the advisory body to the King to a Supreme Council of State.

The Ligozo appointed the King's natural mother as Queen Regent — King Sobhuza had about 60 wives and reportedly hundreds of children — and made Prince Bhekimphe Prime Minister

while Queen Dzeliwe was banished to a remote island.

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Troops patrol Delhi as two are shot dead in Hindu-Muslim clashes

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Troops were back on the streets of Delhi yesterday after Hindu-Muslim riots left at least 70 people injured, many seriously. Mr Ved Marwah, the Police Commissioner, reported to have said that two people had been shot dead.

Clashes broke out after two days of relative peace in the old city area. A curfew in the district was lifted to allow the Muslims to attend their Friday prayers, but immediately afterwards a crowd surged out of a mosque found itself in trouble again.

Slogan-shouting mobs ransacked Hindu houses and shops and soon a full-blooded inter-communal riot was causing a series of confrontations with police.

The beleaguered policemen fired tear gas, and then shots in the air, to clear the mobs from the areas around the biggest mosque in old Delhi. Witnesses said they heard sporadic shooting and saw smoke coming from gutted shops.

Two thousand paramilitary police reservists were moved into the area, and troops began patrolling to enforce a renewed curfew. Officials said that many of the injured taken to two hospitals in the city had been stabbed and 12 were seriously hurt.

In Meerut, 40 miles away, where Hindu-Muslim rioting began on Monday and later spread to Delhi, the situation

was still tense and rioting spread to suburban villages after being put down in the city. With nine deaths reported overnight the toll in the week-long disturbance has risen to 53. Violence was reported last night for the first time from the military cantonment area of the city.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, who yesterday sent Mr Buta Singh, his Home Minister, to Meerut,

Karachi - Police fired shotguns and tear gas at rioters here yesterday, injuring at least five people, witnesses said (Reuters reports). A man was killed and eight injured on Thursday in the suburb of Malir, according to hospital doctors, and disturbances spread to the industrial areas of Landli and Korangi yesterday. The rioting began after the arrest of a man in Malir on weapon charges.

said that he would take "the firmest action" to put down the violence. He appealed to the people of Meerut and Delhi to "stand up with courage to the mischief-mongers" and to help restore law and order.

Relations between Hindus and Muslims have been exacerbated recently by a continuing dispute over the ownership of a shrine in Ayodhya some 300 miles away in Uttar Pradesh, where a mosque was built by the first

Mogul emperor Babur, in place of a Hindu temple which he pulled down. The temple, however, marked the birthplace of the god-king Rama, one of the eight incarnations of Vishnu, and is among the seven holiest Hindu places in India.

● AMRITSAR: Security forces shot dead a top Sikh militant prisoner and another separatist following a rescue attempt in the Punjab yesterday (AFP reports).

Six Sikh gunmen tried to rescue Avtar Singh Phelwan and Rana Pratap Singh as they were being taken by police to a village to locate hidden arms and ammunition. Mr Mohanmad Ishaq Alam, the district police chief of Amritsar said.

But Avtar Singh and one of the gunmen were killed in the 20-minute gun battle that followed near Jandiala Guru village, some 35 miles from this Sikh holy city.

● SINGH LETTER: President Zail Singh of India yesterday appeared to call a halt to a three-month wrangle with his Prime Minister over Mr Gandhi's attitude towards his constitutional rights (Reuters reports from Delhi).

Sources at the presidential palace said that the President had written to Mr Gandhi insisting on his "unfettered right" to call for information on any government matter and on the Prime Minister's duty to supply it.

Comradely hug



China's leader Mr Deng Xiaoping, left, giving a friendly greeting to President Kim of North Korea yesterday. The two leaders had a two-hour meeting that was described by Chinese officials as "very cordial and warm" (Robert Griesse writes).

Mr Deng, aged 82, embraced Mr Kim, aged 75, and said: "We know each other the best," according to the official New China News Agency. Their initial embrace occurred outside the Daiyulai State Guesthouse, where Mr Kim is staying. When, later, they saw another group of photographers, Mr Deng proposed a second hug.

During their conversation the men reportedly "delighted in each other's company".

Mr Kim arrived in Peking on Thursday for his first official visit to China since 1982. He is believed to be seeking economic assistance and the revival of political ties.

The drug trade in Peru

Shining Path guerrillas halt efforts to eradicate cocaine

From Christopher Thomas, Lima

The fanatical Shining Path guerrillas have established themselves in a large area of the Upper Huallaga Valley, probably the world's biggest source of cocaine, rendering the Government's eradication programme little short of useless.

The guerrillas are not believed to be directly involved in the drugs business, although they are doing nothing to stop it, but they have exploited farmers' anger at official anti-drug efforts. They engage in expensive arms deals with the traffickers, which seems to be the full extent of the relationship.

A Government assault on the growth of coca has virtually wiped out the economy of the town of Tingo Maria, once the coca-growing capital of Peru. It is an isolated success however. Elsewhere in the valley, a vast jungle region north-east of Lima, the Shining Path has launched a murder blitz that has forced officials to pull out of much of the area.

The Shining Path's relationship with the drug dealers is tense; only on Thursday there were unconfirmed reports of dozens dying in a gun battle because the traffickers supplied the guerrillas with old and useless rifles.

A recent upsurge of violence in northern parts of the valley is attributed to battles between rival groups of traffickers. Colombian traders appear to be the dominant force in that

area while the Shining Path seems to be the dominant authority in central parts of the valley. The ultra-left group has been held responsible for the murder of six mayors in the area.

The United States has been working with Peru since 1980 to end the cocaine trade in the Huallaga. Despite \$35 million (£21.4 million) in American anti-drug funds the business is flourishing, providing an estimated 50 per cent of the coca leaf used to produce cocaine for the US.

"We didn't foresee the degree of violence our programme would spawn in the valley," one American official



involved in the anti-drugs programme said. "That has had a substantial impact on our ability to carry out our projects."

Even before the Shining Path moved heavily into the valley, the eradication programme met fierce opposition from farmers who could make

substantially more money from coca than from coffee or cacao crops. In the Huallaga it is possible to produce five crops a year of the hardy coca plant, which needs hardly any attention.

In the valley town of Tocache more than 30 people died in a gun battle between drug traffickers two months ago. On March 5 one group destroyed a helicopter carrying the director of Peru's anti-drug police force and the then head of the US Drug Enforcement Agency in Peru.

Two men fled into the jungle and were rescued the next day after surviving long gun battles with the traffickers.

Eradication is a hopeless task. There is no effective herbicide against coca and it has to be laboriously pulled up by hand, which is highly dangerous in what amounts to a war zone. Acreage continues to expand in tandem with increased demand from the poor ghettos and the fashionable night clubs of the US.

According to the latest official figures an estimated 175,000 acres of new coca fields have been planted since 1985. The real figure is almost certainly much greater than that, perhaps double. The drug lords are clearly unstoppable.

Ironically some American development aid has helped the traffickers. New roads built in the countryside, for example, have given coca farmers better access to the markets for their crop.

Sri Lankan offensive

'Heavy casualties' in battle for north

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

The bloody battle for control of the northern peninsula of Sri Lanka continues with heavy civilian casualties, say spokesmen of the Tamil rebel cause in south India.

The Tamil guerrilla fighters have been in virtually unopposed control of the peninsula, of which Jaffna is the principal town, for more than a year. But after the city centre bomb massacre in Colombo last month, the ruling party urged the security forces to "wipe out terrorism", and the Army has been under pressure to win back control and freedom of movement in the north.

Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, the Prime Minister, told Parliament earlier this week that his Government meant to carry out every word of the party resolution. "Until these violent actions are stopped we will not engage ourselves in political negotiations," he insisted.

Mr Anton Balasingham, who speaks in Madras for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the largest of the guerrilla groups seeking to establish a separate Tamil homeland in the north and east of Sri Lanka, declared that though the Army had left its camps in several areas of the peninsula it had been engaged by the Tigers and in most cases had been pushed back inside after several hours of fighting.

Though Mr Balasingham

characterized the offensive as "a major military operation", it seems likely that what the troops are attempting is to control certain important crossroads, to prevent the Tigers from moving around the peninsula as freely as they once did.

The armed forces also gained one important advantage in the killing of the LTTE's regional commander, "Lieutenant-Colonel" Harichandran, also known as "Radha".

Announcing the LTTE's loss in the Colombo Parliament, Mr Lalith Athulathumudali, the National Security Minister, said that Radha had led the massacre of 150 civilians in Anuradhapura two years ago.

A meeting to mark Radha's death, held in a private house near Attchuvelli in the peninsula, was bombed by a Sri Lankan Air Force plane, and a number of mourners were killed.

According to the Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students (Eros) in Madras, the military operations have been accompanied by air raids and shelling and mortaring from the various military camps. Eros said yesterday that 90 Tamil families had been left homeless by the bombing, and several civilians - the exact number is not known - were believed killed.

Two fires rage out of control

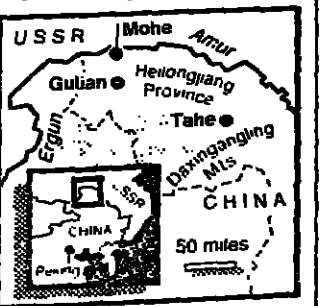
By Our Foreign Staff

A huge forest fire in the Soviet Union is threatening to cross the border into China, which is already fighting its worst blaze in almost 40 years.

The Soviet fire has reached the 150-yard wide Ergun river that forms part of the frontier, and is likely to cross into the Chinese region of Inner Mongolia if the wind strengthened, according to the New China News Agency. China's fire is also spreading out of control towards Inner Mongolia.

Chinese television said the situation near the town of Mohe in the north of the country remained serious.

Pravda reported yesterday



that huge forest fires were raging near the Chinese border, but it gave few details. However, it did not suggest that there was any link between the two fires.

Indeed, it noted that fires were extremely common in the Amur region and had already destroyed 391,000 acres of forest in the past year. It blamed farmers for starting the fires by burning off weeds.

11 face death sentence

Ankara (Reuters) - A military court in the southern Turkish town of Adana has sentenced 11 right-wing extremists to death on charges of murder, assault and conspiracy.

Killer fever

Geneva (Reuters) - A yellow fever epidemic which began last month in south-western Nigeria has killed 214 people, the World Health Organization said.

Monk's secret

Catania, Sicily (AFP) - An 83-year-old monk has been discovered to be a convicted murderer who escaped from death row in 1942.

Death penalty

Seoul (AP) - The Justice Ministry has proposed that the minimum age for the death penalty be raised from 16 to 18.

VC10 struck

Hong Kong (Reuters) - An RAF VC10 carrying more than 80 British servicemen and their families made an emergency landing here after being struck by lightning.

Coming clean

Tokyo (Reuters) - A Japanese company has invented a washing machine that uses ultrasonic waves instead of soap.

Warders held

Valencia (Reuters) - Two prisoners were holding five warders at gunpoint in a prison workshop.

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Somebody once said, 'A week is a long time in politics.' The fact that not many people can remember who it was, tends to underline the basic truth of Harold Wilson's remark.

So, whatever anyone tells you to the contrary, nobody can be absolutely certain of what will happen in the general election.

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May 23-29, 1987

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

A fighter reborn

The 19th century's ultimate deterrent is a slumbering giant that awakes to its former splendour next month.

Libby Purves trod the rejuvenated decks of Hulk C77

I first saw HMS Warrior as a pattern of dark masts and yardarms, towering over the low roofs of Hartlepool at dusk. I found the scale of things disconcerting: a three-masted square-rigger would not, surely, be so vast or so black? A forgotten 1860s battleship could hardly loom so menacingly over the dead shops and abandoned docklands of 1987?

There is something of the colossus about Warrior, the look of a forgotten and slumbering giant about to wake. She made me uneasy. And perhaps unbelieving unease was the right reaction to have: it is more or less precisely what the Victorian crowds felt on the day of her launching. For Warrior is a doorway in time: a wooden ship wrapped in massive iron, a steamship sprouting a frigate's masts. In her day, she mattered more to the world than any other ship afloat; and in her dotage, she has found an army of votaries to serve her. The heavy black ship found her way, confusedly, into every dream I had that night.

In the morning, thin foggy sunshine gleamed wetly off her long black sides as I walked along the old Coal Wharf where she has lain this last seven years being groomed for a new life. This is the dock where she came as a hulk, and from whence she will be towed in triumph on June 12, 384 miles to Portsmouth. There, she will find a tailor-made jetty, a seabed specially dredged to accommodate her 26ft draft, and two illustrious neighbours: Mary Rose and Nelson's Victory.

It is quite a turn of fortune's wheel for something that spent 50 years of its life under the unassuming title of Hulk C77, and was twice unsuccessfully offered for scrap. This anxiety to preserve historic ships is a relatively new phenomenon: in 1904, when the Navy removed Warrior from the reserve list, they merely put her capacious masts back to practical use as Vernon III, part of the HMS Vernon training school for wireless and torpedoes. Twenty-five years later, she was towed peremptorily round to Milford Haven and set up as a fuel-jetty. There, with six inches of concrete spread on her venerable deck, she lay for half a century.

Yet in her day, she had been a one-ship revolution. She was the watershed, the moment of transition between the beautiful, white-sailed square-riggers which won Trafalgar, and the low, mean, iron warships of 1914. Merely by existing, Warrior made every other fighting vessel in the world obsolete: she was the nuclear submarine of the 1860s, the ultimate deterrent. Her existence kept the peace so efficiently that she never fired a shot in anger. You could argue that she started the modern arms race.

It all began in the 1850s. The French began to build a ship, *Gloire*, which - having the novelty of a wooden hull armoured with solid wrought-iron plates - would be safe from attack by British cannon. Goaded, the Navy commissioned Isaac Watts, its Chief Constructor, to create the fastest, largest, strongest and most powerfully-armed warship in the world. She would have the lines of a frigate, but blown up to the vast length of 418ft: with 22-inch-thick sides (four inches of iron and 18 of oak), an internal box

construction which could float her even if the timber ends were shot off, and an engine to move her at speed even if dismantled. With her 40 heavy guns, she would be invincible. The *Pride of the Navy*. Someone muttered: "She looks like a black snake amongst the rabbits."

The nickname still suits: as we walked through the Hartlepool drizzle towards her sleek shape, my escort said, "The black snake", and I saw it straightaway. Napoleonic frigates and men o'war, lethal though they were, look fairly picturesquely quaint today. Warrior has the same rig, the same grace, but a more modern style of deadliness. There is even an armoured conning-tower on deck for officers to direct the fighting.

History overlooked Warrior. By 1969 she had been disregarded for nearly a century.

But in that year the Maritime Trust was formed, under the patronage of Prince Philip; and he at once suggested restoring her. The Trust demurred at the cost; but in 1978, John Smith, head of the Maritime Trust, promised to underwrite the cost of restoration. So far the Trust has spent about £4.5 million, the Manpower Services Commission £1 million, English Heritage £200,000, and private donors varying sums. Portsmouth City Council has put £1.5 million into her new home.

The Warrior Preservation Trust and later, the Warrior Association were formed, and Hartlepool chosen as a site for the restoration. So the neglected, redundant, shipyard men of the North-east got an astonishing gift: not just any job, but a huge, complex, fascinating one: today 140 men are working on the ship.

The on-site operation is directed from an old Custom House on the wharf. Captain Wells, my escort, had come up from Hampshire; he is a retired naval officer who

wrote the history of the ship, *The Immortal Warrior*, ferreting around meanwhile for artefacts to display in her. He badgered the Naval College at Dartmouth into finding some mid-Victorian cutlery in their cellars, fretted over the design of the Captain's swinging cot and went to Ireland to find the old uniforms of Warrior's first Captain: the Hon Arthur Auckland Leopold Pedro Cochrane.

Wells has read every single deck log of the Warrior, and knows everything from the instruments in the ship's band (four violins, cello, clarinet, viola and euphonium) to the drill for floggings (too gory to relate). When he comes to Hartlepool he makes a beeline for the office of his on-site research colleague, Walter Brownlee, and waving cutlasses and photos, the two plunge into absorbing shop-talk. "Delivered 20 pikes on Tuesday." "Good, good. Gotta treat for you in the timber shed, John, the first six-pounder carriage." "Aha, I look forward to that! We used Alum Bay sand in the new

sandglass, but it's 30 seconds out in one direction."

Walter Brownlee is an ex-master mariner and school headmaster. At first, he turned the Warrior job down. "I told them I really wasn't interested in Victorian battleships, nothing after 1812, thank you." But they got him to come and stand on the rainswept, concrete-buried black hull; he was instantly captivated. "She's Napoleonic! A throw-back, a classic frigate shape, and yet with all this new thinking in her."

It is a grand thing for an historian to find one object which bridges two eras: he became utterly absorbed. When I noticed the carving on the poop of graceful inclined window-frames (the galleon stern) with no windows in them, Brownlee crowed. "No, they never were functional windows. It's just a decoration. They didn't want anything too unfamiliar - who'd lack two tons extra on the bow of a ship with these fine lines, and tender trim, just to please the crew? But as the naval architect John Scott Russell said: 'Jack likes a pretty figurehead. It was tradition'."

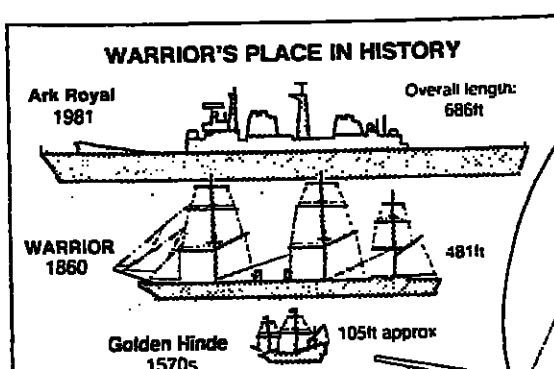
As a merchant-serviceman, he is inclined to joke a little about naval conservatism. Captain Wells, on the other hand, finds glory in it. His own fathers have been senior

naval officers since Nelson's day, and only 50 years ago, he says, "I joined a navy where subordinate officers slept in hammocks." He feels the line unbroken, revels in communicating in fathoms, ounces, and points of the compass. In his world, grog is served at seven bells, marine drummers beat the orders, yards are counterbraced and soundings taken.

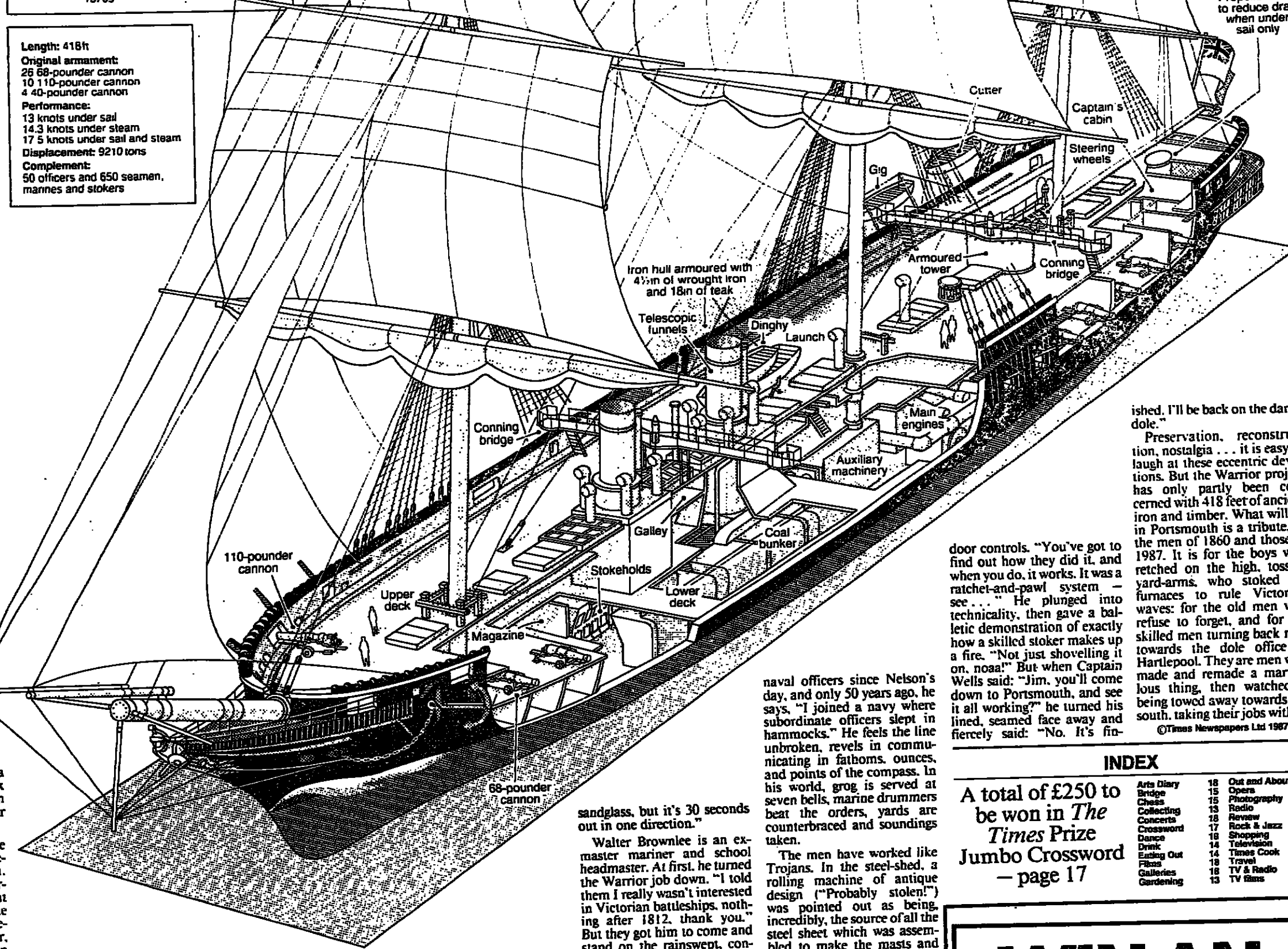
The men have worked like Trojans. In the steel-shed, a rolling machine of antique design ("Probably stolen!") was pointed out as being, incredibly, the source of all the steel sheet which was assembled to make the masts and yards (wood was too dear). In the next shed Stan Relton, a Geordie shipwright carpenter, was expressing a sort of cheerful anger as he finished a gun-carriage to a pattern nobody had consulted for a hundred years. "Well, pet, Ah'm sad it's coming to an end. I'll be on the dole. No more ship jobs."

The ship, close up, is magic: not only are the sides so thick that the portholes loom like tunnels, but around you a whole Victorian naval hierarchy springs unexpectedly to life. Here is the Captain's panelled, gold-leafed suite in the stern, here, the long, low space where 650 seamen lived huddled-mugger amid guns and hammocks. "Eating, sleeping, looking after the chickens and animals, smoking, chewing baccy, reading, drinking, sewing," says Walter Brownlee with relish. "There was a saying, 'Jack likes a fag'."

Back in the office, we met Jim Wilson, the engineer: Hartlepool born, at sea half his life. He has been building the replica engines and spent weeks researching furnace



Length: 418ft
Original armament:
26 68-pounder cannon
10 110-pounder cannon
4 40-pounder cannon
Performance:
13 knots under sail
14.3 knots under steam
17.5 knots under sail and steam
Displacement: 9210 tons
Complement:
50 officers and 650 seamen,
males and stokers



ished, I'll be back on the damn dole."

Preservation, reconstruction, nostalgia... it is easy to laugh at these eccentric devotions. But the Warrior project has only partly been concerned with 418 feet of ancient iron and timber. What will lie in Portsmouth is a tribute to the men of 1860 and those of 1987. It is for the boys who retched on the high, tossing yard-arms, who stoked the furnaces to rule Victoria's waves; for the old men who refuse to forget, and for the skilled men turning back now towards the dole office in Hartlepool. They are men who made and remade a marvelous thing, then watched it being towed away towards the south, taking their jobs with it.

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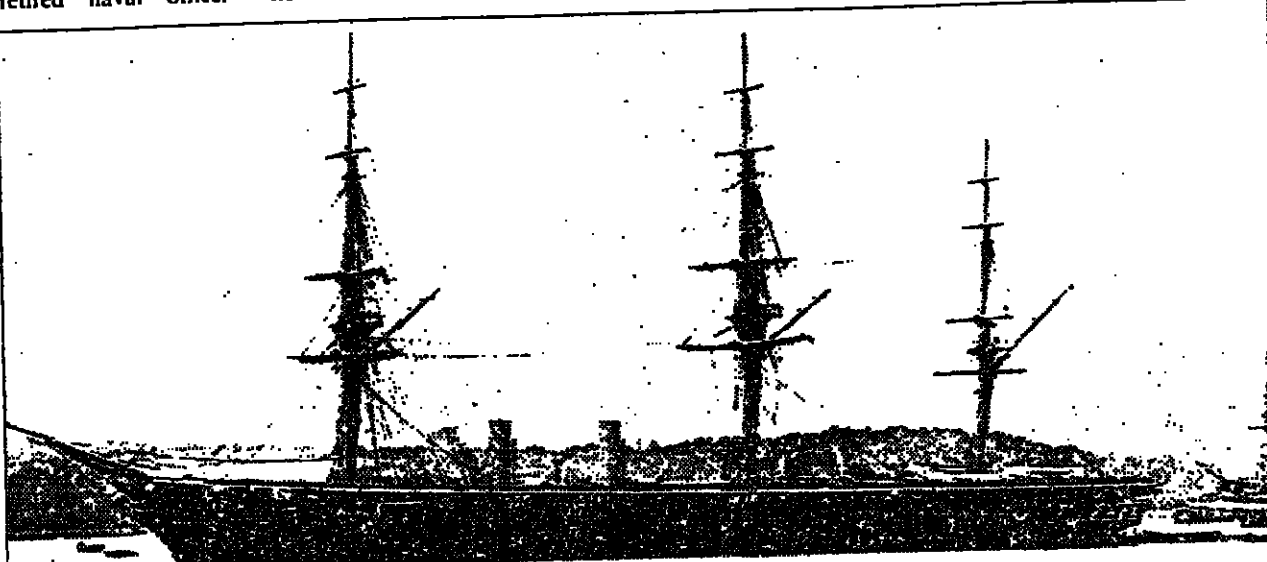
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Loneliness is just one problem

And it is a fairly common problem for seafarers away from home for months at a time. But it is only one of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian society working among seafarers we are asked for all kinds of help - spiritual, emotional, social and practical. And we are there, ready to give all the help we can, in all parts of the world. To give this help we depend entirely upon voluntary contributions. Please help us to continue the Anglican Church's ministry to seafarers by a legacy, or please send whatever you can to The Missions to Seamen, Freeport, London, EC4A 4EP.

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Old glory: The Warrior, which spent most of its active life with the Channel Fleet, in Plymouth Sound sometime before 1864

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 1



Field work: children help with the farming near Kunming



Great changes have taken place in China since travellers from the West were allowed back into the country 14 years ago. The choice of regions accessible to visitors has increased steadily and facilities greatly improved. Xishuanbanna is a recently opened area of natural beauty in the south western corner, while booming Canton offers the attraction of big-city sophistication

The cracking of China's fragile past

Midway across a turbid mountain tributary of the Mekong river, our raft grounded on an underwater obstruction and refused to move. To call it a raft at all rather overstates the unanimity of its components: it was no more than a dozen slippery bamboo logs in a loose association. If more than one of us stood on the same log, it would submerge like a weary alligator. The raft was tethered to a cable across the ravine, with another cable for travellers to pull it to and fro over the yellow current.

But the stream was low, and the raft was clearly not going to take us any further towards the village of Barla, whose shaggy palm-thatched roofs stood out on a dusty bluff among banana trees. There was nothing for it but to hoist our cameras as high as possible and wade for shore. Mr Liu, our resourceful interpreter, carried the less waterproof members of the party ashore, piggy-back. Damp but elated, we entered the village feeling almost like real explorers.

Barla is a settlement of the Hani tribe, deep in the borderlands between China, Vietnam and Thailand — an area so politically sensitive and sketchily-equipped for tourism that the Chinese authorities have only just begun to allow unrestricted visits by outsiders.

The Hani had not worked up a routine for coping with sightseers. Children gathered just beyond arm's length, bursting with slightly defiant curiosity. A few of the women attempted, in a visibly despairing spirit, to sell us black embroidered jackets, all identical to the untutored eye, woven on the rough-hewn looms which stood outdoors beside the houses.

They wore black jackets and knee-length skirts like those they offered, and tight, white

head-cloths. They were barefoot but wore rainbow-striped woven gaiters or shin-guards, reminiscent of football-socks from some rather assertive prep-school.

It was awkward: we felt uncomfortable, tall, rich and unwelcome. They felt exhibited. I think. But one venerable woman broke the ice and led us up into her house (it rode high on poles, with its ground-floor given over to hens and noisy black piglets). She made us tea from a sooty pan on a fire which smouldered ominously on a slab below the thatched rafters. As self-appointed researchers into minority customs, we interrogated her — through the filter of two stages of translation — about local marital practices, which are unusual in China.

When a boy reaches his mid-teens, she told us, he builds himself a reedy shack, something between a dog-kennel and a potting-shed in size, next to the family house.

Any girl who wishes to stay with him there may do so without censure, and an aimable free-for-all continues until a girl becomes pregnant. Her fertility thus established, she becomes a worthwhile marriage partner.

After marriage, the conventions are abruptly reversed. The couple move into the relatively public surroundings of the family house. From now on, sex becomes something indulged in with the kind of shamefaced covertness reserved elsewhere for adultery. Further babies are therefore something to blush over.

The plaited shacks were to be seen all round us in the village, flimsy constructions with no air of disuse. But the village dames insisted that these were customs of the past.

before the advent of socialist enlightenment. No doubt the new conventions, as well as the old, accommodate a degree of divergence between theory and practice.

Our hosts, venturing on some ethnological researches of their own across the language barrier, laughed long and heartily to hear us brazenly admit that the British sometimes carry on like Hani courting couples even after decades of marriage.

Other peoples in the region have a variety of odd traditions, which often seem to be aimed at controlling birth-rates in territory which could only support a limited population (in Tibet, for instance, the traditional custom has been to encourage young men to become celibate monks in huge numbers). If so, the devices appear to be effective. China's minorities — a mere drop in the ocean of its population and something approaching the population of Britain — have a relatively low rate of

increase. They are exempt from the heavy social pressures which oblige majority Chinese to restrict their families to one.

This concession might well be resented. It is one sign of a pragmatic tolerance of diversity which has begun to colour official attitudes towards the minorities since the brutalities of the Cultural Revolution.

The pragmatism is not only a matter of keeping touchy populations contented: China is beginning to wake up to the fact that its minorities constitute a tourist asset of the first water. The government has a bold plan to expand foreign tourism fivefold before the end of the century. This forebodes desperate overcrowding on the Great Wall, and will necessitate a crash programme in the training of competent plumbers and chambermaids on a scale the world has never seen.

To spread the impact, and the benefits, fresh attractions



Girl talk: Dai youngsters in full costume join the bustle of Meng Hun village's free market

will have to be developed. The Hani, Sani, Bai, Dai, Miao and the other tribes live in lush subtropical mountains in an environment nearing pastoral bliss, surrounded by tinkling pagodas and giant butterflies. The women (who are as graceful as their Thai cousins) still wear their tribal costumes — more out of pride of identity than with any thought of luring tourists. The diversity of their helmets and breastplates of dowry-silver, rows of necklaces and outrageous Napoleonic tricorn hats convey a complex code of information about origin and social and marital status.

The border region of Xishuanbanna is further from Peking than Casablanca is from London, and communications and accommodation verge on the rough. But that is going to change quickly. The beautiful villagers are in for a dose of culture shock. Some

will adapt — at a Sani minority village in another region we were dogged everywhere by a band of handicraft vendors who were perfectly well informed about the going rate for an embroidered jacket, and observed us with a sort of streetwise cockney gaiety. Some of their cousins, it turned out, had toured Japan and America with the local dance troupe.

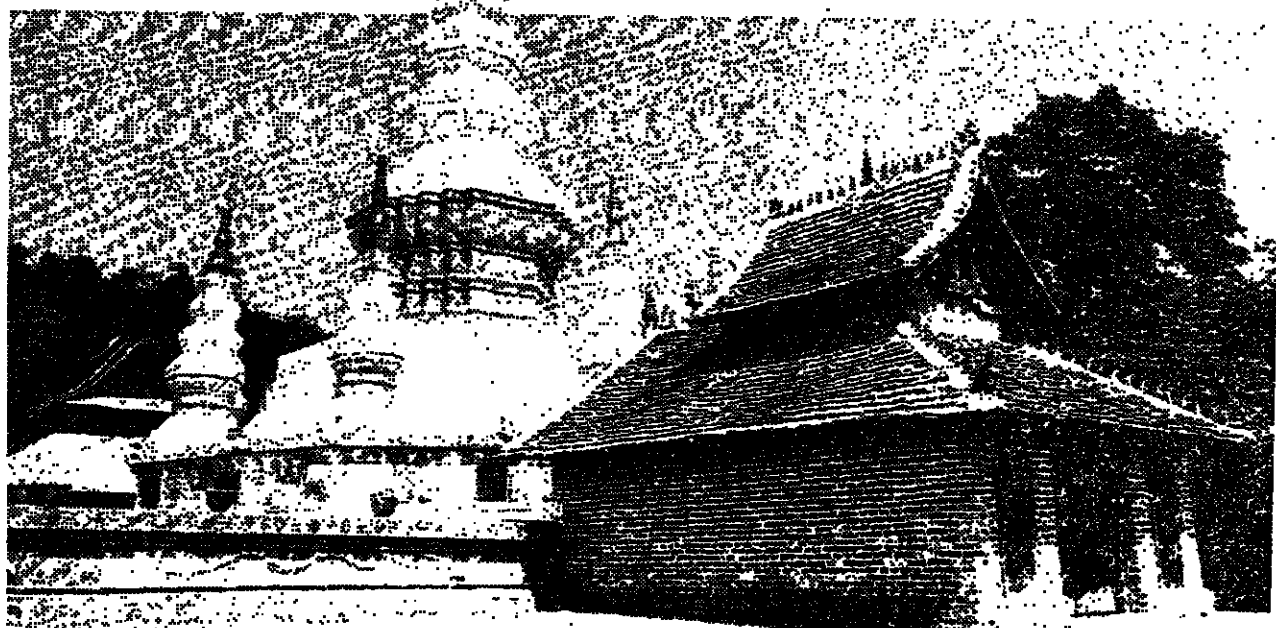
The shy and un-streetwise will need more help. Tourism brings prosperity, of course, and pastoral bliss generally looks more blissful to the onlooker than the victim. But the authorities in the region have a sharp social transition to oversee in the next few years, and they will need tact if the benefits are to be spread without causing stress.

The men were coming home from the fields as we left Barla; they wore shabby blue

Maoist uniforms and stared at us glumly. We found out afterwards that the village had petitioned not long before to have our rustic raft replaced with a modern bridge. But the tourist authorities objected on the grounds that the picturesquely primitive river-crossing, so handy for the main road, was very attractive to tourists — which it undoubtedly was.

Perhaps the villagers' petition would have been rejected in any event, on an impeccable assessment of priorities: perhaps other villages upstream, which receive no tourist-parties, feel that their neighbours receive more than their share of the luck already. But we could understand how our villagers might well consider that getting on to the tourist map had its drawbacks as well as its benefits.

George Hill



Oriental ornateness: the cupolas of a pagoda in Meng Hun stand out in colourful contrast to the plain brick surroundings

I travelled to the recently-opened minority district of Xishuanbanna as a guest of the China National Tourist Agency, by way of Peking. But this corner of China is much closer to Hong Kong, or even Bangkok, and will become increasingly accessible through these in future. It is approached through Kunming, the nearest large city, from where prop-driven Antonovs of vintage aspect fly twice weekly to Simao. From there it is a four-hour bus ride over mountain roads to Jing Hong.

TRAVEL NOTES

centre for excursions to Meng Hai and Barla. Individual travellers prepared to travel rough can make their own way there, cheaply but slowly. But this year the UK-China Travel Service, of 24 Cambridge Circus, London WC2, has introduced two 16-day tours to the area, departing on May 24 and August 2. They go by way of Hong Kong, Canton and Guilin and cost £1,355, all-inclusive.

Kunming is the last outpost of modern hotels comparable with western tourist standards. Beyond Kunming, rooms with bath and shower are available in limited numbers, but some allowances need to be made for plumbing and cleaning. The authorities are sensitive about this and take care not to expose western parties to the rigours of the hotels for Chinese travellers (although you can stay in the latter if you wish). Travellers used to visiting remote places will probably have seen worse.

A question of identity

It seems a dumb question in retrospect, but I asked myself, where did all these Chinese guests come from in a Chinese hotel? Only four years ago my Chinese visitors were held at the entrance to the hotel grounds when coming to keep appointments, barred from the precincts of all China's modern hotels, which were kept as luxurious ghettos for foreigners.

But this time, it was not only the monumentally ostentatious foyer of the Garden Hotel in Guangzhou that was teeming with Chinese, but also all seven restaurants, the lifts and many of the corridors. Could so many tourists be coming from Hong Kong or Macau, or were these coach-parties of overseas Chinese from further afield swarming in to explore the motherland?

The simple, surprising answer was that these were mainland Chinese, many of them of an age to have been waving Little Red Books aloft during Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution. And they were not tramping through the hotel to gawp at the fleshpots. They were there to revel in them.

Four fifths of the Garden Hotel restaurant's trade comes from the people of Canton itself. It is a figure that amazes even the management for the price of an à la carte meal in their Peach Blossom restaurant can easily equal the officially quoted average monthly income for the region.

The Garden is a joint-enterprise hotel in which the Chinese government's partner is the Peninsula Group, owners of the most belatedly old-fashioned and colonial of the luxury hotels in Hong Kong. The temptation, then, was to suppose that all the swifly-uniformed and chiefly-coiffed staff had been brought from Hong Kong.

Wrong again. Of the Garden's 2,300 staff just 250 come from Hong Kong. Almost all those that I could see were local young Chinese, recruited straight from school.

Spoken English, for most, is

rudimentary, largely key phrases learnt parrot fashion in weekly half-hour classes. But service is willing. When the lifts broke down the staircase teemed with porters humping cases, and room service was scarcely delayed, even on the 19th floor.

In the Connoisseur restaurant international haute cuisine is served for those with foreign exchange certificates to spend. That can include local entrepreneurs. Incredibly, waiters who at home would use chopsticks and mugs, whisk forth the correct cutlery and wine glasses for orders placed in the menu's elaborate French.

To supply the Connoisseur, local co-operatives have been contracted to raise novel crops such as asparagus and artichokes, and persuaded to treat calves like suckling pigs so that the hotel can have veal. One inspired use of a local ingredient, the

flavourful sabayon, is made with pungent Chinese yellow wine.

It is astonishing to have such standards of luxury and service in a hotel which still has to recycle its own water and generate most of its electricity due to lack of supplies in the city outside.

More valuable to foreign visitors than the Connoisseur, though, is the popular Lai Wan Market restaurant, which is the one most favoured by the Garden's Cantonese customers. It makes completely authentic Cantonese cuisine easily accessible to westerners for the first time.

Canton's city restaurants are famous and popular, but impossible for foreigners without local assistance. Lacking the language, foreigners who risk it can wait hours and be fed left-overs. But the Lai Wan's sautéed wheels, boiled goose's

intestines, steamed fish head and ox-tripe hotpot, which receive the enthusiastic endorsement of hundreds of local Cantonese every day, can be ordered in English, and are served with promptitude and grace. A lavish meal for two, composed of dishes seldom encountered even in Hong Kong, will cost the equivalent of about £8.

The restaurant does not, of course, serve everything that the Cantonese would eat themselves. A visit to Qing Ping, Canton's largest street market, makes squeamish westerners glad of that. Beyond the gaudy goldfish and the sweet-smelling sacks of herbs and spices are cages of miserable kittens, a covering fox, battered badgers, fat frogs tied together in struggling bunches, and even a hunch-backed barn owl or eagle, all dejectedly awaiting customers and destined for the pot. What tribute to the Lai Wan Market's richly-sauced spare ribs, Wuxi-style, that they quite restored my appetite even after the market tour!

Robin Young

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OUT AND ABOUT



The drawing room of Preston Manor: it feels like a home, one where the family walked out in 1905 and never came back

Travelling back to 1905

Right on the A23, in the Brighton suburb of Preston Park, is the last place you would expect to find an Edwardian country house. But Preston Manor remains as intact a time-capsule as you could wish.

Although it is nothing much to look at from the outside, once inside the dim of passing cars gives way to the slow ticking of many clocks, and the 1905 yields to the authentic atmosphere of 1905. That was the year serious money entered the family, and turned what had been a plain 18th-century box (standing on medieval foundations) into the rather less plain Edwardian box we see today.

The family, the Stanfords, engaged Charles Stanley Peach as architect. He added a new servants' wing and dining room, rearranged the existing servants' rooms in the basement, widened the entrance hall and added a veranda. His only slip was to put the spare maid's room next to the visiting man's room, but otherwise he made a good job of it, tactfully maintaining the 18th-century flavour.

The result of his labours was that Preston Manor became rather a grand house, with accommodation for some 13 indoor servants and every amenity for lavish entertaining. It came into the hands of

Preston Manor in Brighton is an unspoiled Edwardian time-capsule, says Nigel Andrew

Brighton corporation in 1932. The spacious entrance hall, in Edwardian times, was the one part of the house where men were permitted to smoke in front of the women. Like the rest of the house it is lavishly, if miscellaneously, furnished.

But there are treats for the connoisseur — chiefly in the Macquoid room, formerly the library but now housing the furniture, silver and paintings bequeathed to the corporation by the widow of Percy Macquoid, artist, designer and furniture expert.



The manor's Edwardian owners: the Stanfords, circa 1898

Among the splendid South German marquetry work and Flemish paintings, it is curious to see Macquoid's "weather drawings" for the *Daily Graphic*. These show his wife dressed in Grecian style and coping with every conceivable form of weather: they illustrated the *Graphic's* daily weather forecast before the First World War.

Apart from this one room, the house has nothing at all museum-like about it: it feels like a home, one where the family unaccountably walked out in 1905 and never came

back. You are allowed to wander around at will with no ropes to keep you in your place.

If the Edwardian atmosphere is not enough for you, an added frisson is available in the Caves room, where a famous seance was held in 1896.

After trouble with disembodied hands crawling up bedposts and mysterious figures lurking on the stairs, a medium was called in and a message duly received from the spirit of a murdered nun. Her bones were found outside the house and reinterred in consecrated ground, despite anti-Catholic objections from the vicar of St Peter's church.

This is the fine little 13th-century building which stands at the rear of Preston Manor, behind a tall, flint wall, overlooking the two croquet lawns.

The Edwardian "old-fashioned" garden is delightful. Against the wall at one end is the family pet cemetery with its long row of tiny gravestones and quaint epitaphs: "Here lies Tatters. Not that it matters." "In memory of dear Peter who was cross and surly but loved us".

Preston Manor, Preston Park, Brighton (0273 803005). Open Wed-Sat 10am-5pm; Tues and Sun 10am-1pm and 2-5pm; closed Mon. Admission 85p.

WEEKEND WALK
Louth, Lincolnshire
11 miles

Louth, with its great church spire, is a busy market town on the eastern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds, an expansive landscape of rolling grasslands interspersed with plantations and copses.

Start at Utterby church and walk west to the road where the path turns right. Turn left down a

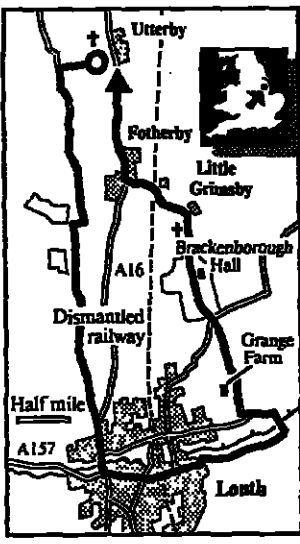
track, then a footpath for one and a half miles, although the path is difficult to discern, until a minor road is reached. Follow this south, turn right and then left, cross a field and a lane into pasture with a wood to the left. Keep heading south until the path becomes a track, then a by-road into Louth.

Louth is a most attractive town with a variety of fine Georgian and early Victorian buildings overtopped by a magnificent 16th-century church spire. Lunch should be no problem, even on Sundays. East of the town, 18th and 19th century warehouses cluster at the head of the Louth Navigation canal of 1770. Walk along the tow-

path as far as Louth Park. Cross the canal again to follow the minor road through Grange Farm. Cross the Yarnborough Road and in the pastures either side of the lane are the superb earthworks of the lost village of Brackenborough, and the Georgian Hall within its medieval moat.

Continue north to Little Grimsby with its tiny white-washed church and early Georgian brick hall. Just north of the hamlet turn left to cross a field towards Fotherby, eventually crossing an abandoned railway trackbed. Walk up the main road (A16) back to Utterby.

Martin Andrew



OUTINGS

OPEN DAYS AT WROUGHTON: Displays of microfilm and other flex-wing aircraft throughout. Tomorrow the RAC Norwich Union Classic Car Rally from Beaulieu plus the Morgan Three-Wheeler Car Club Rally. Clous Wood Nature Reserve also reopens for the season. South Museum, Wroughton, Red Barn Gate, Near Swindon, Wiltshire (0793 814466). Today, tomorrow and Monday, 10am-5.30pm, adult £1, child free.

FESTIVAL OF ENGLISH WINE: 20 vineyards from South East England, including Biddenden, Penenden, Lamberhurst and Leeds Castle, will show their full range of wines in marquees throughout the grounds. Tastings and wines for sale plus a wide selection of English cheeses, Morris and club dancers and a band provide musical entertainment. Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent (0622 65400). Today, tomorrow and Monday 11am-5pm (last admission 5pm) adult £2.85, child £1.85.

BENINGBOROUGH CRAFT WEEKEND: Local craftspeople demonstrate jewellery-making, stained glass, wood turning and book illustration. Also Victorian laundry exhibition with details of life below stairs in the 19th century. Filmmaking and restoration of the house, croquet lawn with croquet sets for hire. Benningborough Hall, Shipton-by-Benningborough, York, North Yorkshire (0904 470666). Tomorrow, Monday noon-5pm, adult £2, child £1.

ANIMAL MANIA: Children's entertainment at the Barbican includes puppet shows, short stories and songs on an animal theme between 12.30-6.30pm today. Piped Piper concert in the Barbican Hall at 3pm with excerpts from classical pieces and the Piped Piper story narrated by Johnny Morris. Tomorrow, more music, songs and stories 12.15-6.45pm. Also talks about animals throughout with the keeper from London Zoo describing her life there at 2.30pm tomorrow.

Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2, (01-638-4141). Today, tomorrow, all events free except concert (£5.50).

WESSEX CRAFT SHOW: 150 craftspeople demonstrating and selling a range of over 30 crafts. Countryside museum and exhibitions well worth visiting. Braemore House, Braemore, Hampshire, today until May 26, 10am-6pm, adult £2, child £1.50. Free.

NAPOLEONIC BATTLES: Napoleonic Association recreates military scenes of 1800-1815, plus 1830s redcoat drill by the Fort Cumberland Guard and a marching band. Fort Brockhurst, Hampshire (0705 581059). Tomorrow, Monday, 10am to late afternoon, main programmes 2pm, adult £1.50, child 50p.

CONVENT GARDEN CONVENTION OF JUGGLERS AND UNICYCLISTS: Between 20 and 35 different acts taking place throughout the day and featuring fire-eaters and jugglers and unicyclists performing many different tricks and magic acts. Covent Garden piazza, London WC1. Tomorrow, 11am-6pm. Free.

Judy Froshaug

COLLECTING

Pack of wild cards

But the habitual player of bridge, whist or poker, cards are a serious business. Shuffle, cut, deal, no frivolity; certainly no variations in the cards themselves, which have remained virtually unchanged for four centuries.

But over the years there have been efforts to liven up packs and get away from the familiar court cards with their double-headed royalty. The first attempt to break the mould came just over 180 years ago in the City of London when John Nixon, an Irish artist living in Basinghall Street, converted the pips on the cards into grotesque figures and whimsical groups. He transformed the Six of Hearts into six faces of a suffering doctor.

These "rogue" packs possibly started as doodles on existing cards, but as artists became interested they were taken up more seriously here and on the Continent. Four years after Nixon's cards were published in 1803 a pack appeared in Wurtemberg based on characters in Schiller's *Wallenstein* with Joan of Arc as the Queen of Spades.

France followed suit — or rather extended fantasy — and by the end of the last century the idea was taken up in the United States. Their ingenuity and amusing variations can be seen at Guildhall where 46 of the 71 known packs are on show.

Ralph Hyde, Keeper of Prints and Maps, has been greatly helped in mounting this unusual exhibition because the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards lent the City their collection early this century.

"This unique art form called for wit, patience and

Attempts to liven up playing cards have resulted in a unique art form, writes Felix Barker

plenty of ingenuity," says Hyde. "Some cards are funny, some deliciously wicked. You suddenly come across the Duke of Wellington on his horse Copenhagen as the Ace of Clubs. Performers on stilts are the Five of Clubs. One of my favourites — in an American pack — shows the King of Diamonds playing the banjo while an inebriated King of Clubs creeps home, boots in hand."

It is a cardinal rule for these "transformation cards", as collectors call them, that the design must incorporate the pips in the same position that they have on the standard cards. This creates great rarity and even an incomplete set may fetch as much as £1,500 at auction. Forgeries, dipped in coffee and so on to simulate age, have been known.

Packs represent social and national affairs. One exquisite set — apparently Cruickshank originals — have topical Victorian backgrounds and a French pack of 1819 contains a Three of Diamonds with men riding velocipedes at a date when these early forms of bicycles were the rage of London and Paris.

After the Battle of Waterloo an artist produced a pack in which the Kings were the four leaders of the allied armies: Wellington, Blücher, Schwarzenberg and Kutusov — the Queens were emblematic figures of England, Russia, Austria and Prussia

and the Jacks the countries' soldiers.

When transformation cards reached America, commercial firms quickly took them up for advertising, among the most amusing of which were produced by Murphy & Company out to sell Murphy Varnish. The Three of Clubs has three skaters passing a warning sign on the ice: "Danger! To be without Murphy Varnish."

At the turn of the century people were not as careful as they would be today about racial allusions. Black men are frequently used for the black suits, and in a French pack we find a determined negro giving an astonished negro an enema, his exposed posterior aply forming the Ace of Spades.

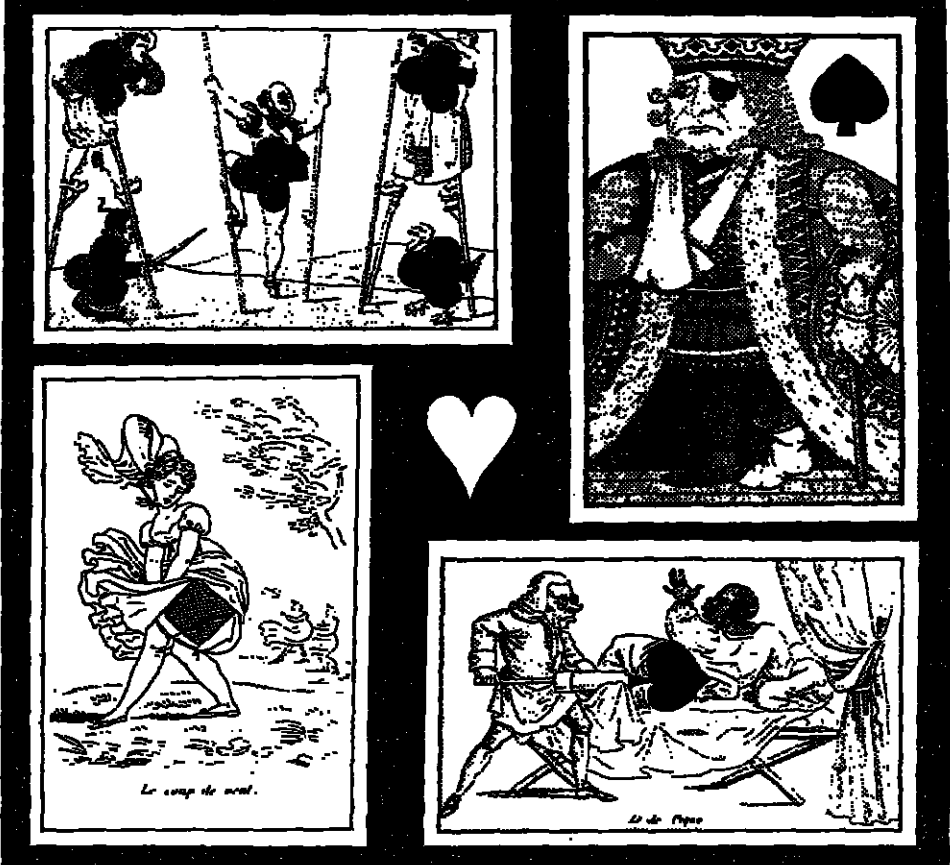
Mild improprieties extend to a Regency girl whom a high wind is being blown up in a high wind to reveal a rosy pink thigh — the Ace of Diamonds.

Rather more explicit is a Two of Diamonds in which a modern girl exposes her underclothes — this one of a pack designed by a young French artist, Patrick Cuenot, for an Islington publisher last June.

M. Cuenot's erotic pack featuring provocative girls, lesbians and gay waiters has given new life to this genre of playing cards. Some 4,500 packs have already been sold, and a second edition is being printed.

To avoid shocking the City Fathers, Ralph Hyde is putting only the less outrageous of these cards on show, but believes that they may revive interest in rogue packs which have not been widely popular since the 1890s.

Pipes: The Art of the Transformation Card is at Guildhall Library until July 3



Jokers in the pack: comic "transformation" cards from the collection at Guildhall Library

IN THE GARDEN

GARDEN NEWS

Along with a great many other Victorian fashions, ferns are regaining popularity. One of the most beautiful, especially early in the year, is the Ostrich Feather fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris*. Its first fronds stretch up, green and delicate as young beech leaves, gradually feathering outwards to make a shape resembling a large green shuttlecock. It is completely hardy but does not welcome drought; if there is no damp spot to put it, garden soil should be mixed with organic material which will help retain moisture. It prefers partial shade and should be sheltered from winds. Give it plenty of room and it will develop fronds up to more than three feet high, with brown fertile fronds which will see the winter through.

If you know someone with an ostrich fern you could bag an offset: if not Bressingham Gardens, Bressingham, Diss, Norfolk IP22 2AB, stock them for mail order. Order now for despatch from September.

For plants which are slightly out of the ordinary, the new Plant Finder compiled by Chris Philip and recently published by the Hardy Plant Society is absolutely invaluable: it gives 14 stockists of the Ostrich Feather fern. Send £5.95 inc p+p to The Hardy Plant Society, Freeport, Worcester WR2 4BR.

Ornamental history lesson

Viewing the collection in Sotheby's garden sale is a highly enjoyable education in the history of garden ornament. It is impossible not to relish the craftsmanship, fashion and excess — whether you intend to buy or not.

I went home longing for a pair of small 19th century bronze toads and a "Chinese Chippendale" gate still with its original 18th century latch.

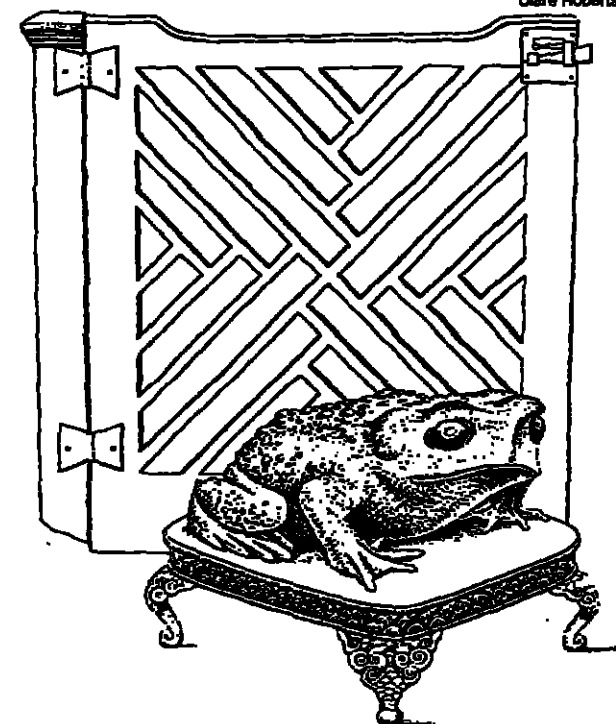
The first Sotheby's sale was enormously successful, drawing an unusually high proportion of private buyers (about 70 per cent). This year's sale, with almost double the number of items, has also been supervised by the young expert James Rylands.

He has taken a risk in including some modern works in a period sale: a seat in bronze in the shape of a naked seated girl by Nicholas Dimbleby, pleasant to look at but not a welcoming lap to sit on. There is also a range of modern cast bronze animals. Given the choice of the modern pieces, I think I'd choose a group of sheep chipped out of

plane wood by Reece Ingram. The early 19th century wrought iron Regency bench seats with spare lines are surprisingly good to sit in and can transform any part of the garden into something quite special. Later in the century heavy cast iron seating became fashionable: an extraordinary cast iron chair with extravagant floral decoration, apparently inspired by Prince of Wales' plumage, is unexpectedly comical.

The most famous cast iron bench seating came from Colebrookdale, solid and heavy with lily of the valley, nasturtium, fern and blackberry patterns. These are becoming so sought-after that there is now a trade in fakes. According to Rylands, serious investors should put money into marble, the fountains of the Bacchantes or the coy damsel by Camille Gresland or Biggi Fausto's gentle, maternal *Venera Amore*.

In many ways it is not the academically respectable classical pieces, such as the



Sotheby's auction items: Japanese bronze toad and "Chinese Chippendale" painted wood gate

early 18th century sandstone urns, which are the most interesting, but items which give a sense of past fashion and history; for instance, the Victorian wirework, some of it recycled from pony-and-rap seats, or the high-shouldered Jekyll terracotta jardinières.

Francesca Greenoak

WEEKEND TIPS

● It should now be safe to put young tomato plants into an unheated greenhouse.

● Take tubs of tender plants outside and plant window boxes for summer but beware late frosts and make provision for protecting them if necessary.

● Prepare ground for runner beans, manuring a trench or bed and putting up a wigwag of canes.

● Sow aubergines and sweet peppers.

GARDENS TO VISIT

Hampshire: Spinners, School Lane, Boldre, 1½ miles north of Lymington off A337. Brookhurst-Lymington road; flowering trees and shrubs, primulas, ground cover plants, exhibition of flower paintings; daily to Sept 1, 10am-6pm.

Suffolk: Chequers, Boxford, 5 miles west of Hadleigh, via A1071. 3-acre plansman's walled garden, stream garden, many rare plants; tomorrow 2-6pm.

Oxfordshire: Silver Trees, Bagley Wood Road, Kennington; 3 acres, alpines, conifers, foliage plants and shrubs, primulas; tomorrow 2-6.30pm, groups by appointment (tel 0865 735232). Viewing until Monday.

Francesca Greenoak

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THE TIMES COOK

At home with luxury seafood

Salmon is the "in" dish this spring in California, preferably raw. Luckily I had taken an old Scots recipe for kippered salmon to demonstrate some cooking class in the Napa Valley, so I was quite in vogue.

I used to assume you needed a whole side to season with salt and sugar and press for days in the *gravad lax* manner, but have now worked out that quite a small cut of salmon can be taken from the bone and treated in this way. It may be too small to cut thin along the fish like smoked salmon but can easily be cut downwards to the skin, more in the Japanese *sashimi* style.

Once pressed, the fish can be wrapped in cling film and, depending on the degree of salt and pressing, it will keep for several days to a week. Use it as you would smoked salmon on brown bread with the special, or toss strips into salads, as a topping for tartar, or tossed in a hot pan for a moment with crisp vegetables.

Kippered Salmon
Serves 4-6 people
1-1/2lb (450-675g) very fresh thick salmon steak
2 tsp fine sea salt
2 tsp dark soft brown sugar
1 tsp brandy

Mix the sugar and salt together.

Adventurous gourmet cooking with salmon and crab or Chinese vegetables is not as difficult as many people think, says guest cook Nicola Cox

Carefully remove the backbone from the salmon. Sprinkle a little sugar and salt mixture on to a plate; lay one piece of salmon on it, skin side down, sprinkle the flesh side of both pieces quite heavily with the sugar and salt mix then lay the second piece, skin side up, on top of the first piece. Sprinkle a little more mixture on to the skin. Cover the plate with cling film and leave in the fridge for 36-48 hours under a 1-2lb weight.

To serve, remove from its juices, wipe dry and slice in quarter-inch thick slices (or thicker or thinner depending what you intend to use it for). Lay 3-4 slices per person attractively on a white plate and garnish with sprigs of dill and a crescent of lime to squeeze. Hand the brown bread and butter.

You can vary the flavour by using more or less sugar and salt or by using white sugar instead of brown, vodka or gin in place of brandy, by adding a little grated lemon or lime rind or ginger or by laying herbs such as dill, chives, chervil, basil or marjoram between the

fish as it presses. The time it is pressed can also vary from a matter of hours to days. Every way will give a different character and flavour. The choice is yours, though with perfect, fresh fish I prefer it utterly simple.

Crab is also at its best now. Choose male ones, with a narrow tail, as they have more white meat which is best for this dish. Prepare them yourself or if time is short, buy them ready-dressed.

Adventurous gourmets who know the wonderful succulence of lightly stir-fried crab from Chinese dining, and who love to pick and suck at the flavourous pieces, will endeavour to get raw crab from their fishmonger (best ordered ahead or he may have cooked them all) to dismember and cook in this simple way with one of the many authentic Chinese vegetables which are rapidly becoming available. Best perhaps for this dish is Chinese broccoli, but try out choy-sun (flowering cabbage), pak-choy (known as Chinese white cabbage) with thick white mid-

ribs, or Tientsin cabbage (usually called Chinese leaves and available everywhere). Large (and expensive) raw prawns in their shells are also lovely for this dish which should be very delicately and lightly seasoned.

Chinese Greens and Crab or Prawn
Serves 4-6 people
1-1/2lb (450-675g) Chinese broccoli etc, or English broccoli
5 tbs oil
1 medium crab, raw if possible, or lightly boiled for 10 minutes or use 6oz (175g) dressed crab (white meat only); alternatively use 6-8 raw, shell-on king prawns
1-2 cloves garlic
2-3 slices fresh root ginger
1 tsp ginger shreds (more if you like)

Sauce
1/4 tsp cornflour; 1 tbs cold water; 1 tsp sugar; 1/2 tsp salt; 5 tbs chicken stock
Seasoning for prawns only
1/2 tsp sugar; 1/2 tsp salt; 1 tsp cornflour; 1 tbs oil

Get a live crab from your fishmonger. When ready to cook, kill instantly in the most humane way by stabbing just behind the mouth with a sharp skewer or screwdriver or freeze for several hours which will also stun and kill it (or get your fishmonger to kill, scrub and dismember it, then run home with it in a bowl and



Nicola Cox: adventurous gourmets know the succulence of lightly stir-fried crab

cook within the day). Scrub the shell all over under running water until clean, twist off the tail and discard.

Prepare on a plate to preserve all the juice. Prize the shell from the body, remove the food sack from just behind the mouth, snip off the grey lung pieces called "dead man's fingers" and discard these; everything else is edible. Cut the body into 6-8 pieces with a leg attached; crack claws and legs with the back of a heavy knife and break the shell into pieces.

Mix the cornflour to a smooth paste with the water and stir in the remaining ingredients. Set aside. Blanch the vegetables in plenty of boiling water, with 1 tablespoon of oil added (but no salt) for 1-2 minutes, depend-

ing on the thickness of the stems. Drain well. Heat the wok until smoking, add 4 tablespoons oil and when hot, add the garlic, ginger slices, and crab pieces; stir-fry for 2-3 minutes until the colour changes, then remove and add vegetables and ginger shreds to the hot oil; stir-fry for about 2 minutes then return the crab or, if using dressed crab, stir in at this stage. Stir and add in sauce and crab juices, stir and boil for 1 minute until the sauce thickens then cover, lower heat, and leave for 2-3 minutes before serving.

If using prawn instead of crab, leave the prawns in their shell but snip down the back and remove black intestinal thread if visible. Mix up their seasoning, stir in the prawns and leave for 5 minutes or more. They only need 1-2

3 fl oz (75ml) good chicken stock

Blanch the vegetables as above, drain well and leave until dry if possible.

Mix the cornflour with cold water then mix with all the sauce ingredients.

Heat a wok or large frying pan, add 2 tablespoons of oil and when hot, add the vegetables and stir-fry for about 2 minutes over high heat until the vegetables turn a deeper green. Pour on the sauce and boil, turning the vegetables in it. Once the sauce is thick and clear, remove vegetables to a serving dish and pour over the sauce.

This intriguing tropical fruit salad in chilli syrup is an idea I brought home from California.

Tropical Fruit in Fresh Chilli Syrup

Serves 4-6 people

1/2-1 ripe melon

1 ripe mango

2 ripe kiwi fruit

1/2 small ripe pineapple

segments of clementine or prepared orange slices

2 ripe bananas

1-2 limes

Fresh Chilli Syrup

8oz (225g) sugar

1/2 pt (300ml) water

1-2 small chillies, de-seeded and finely chopped

For the syrup, dissolve the sugar in the water, bring to the boil, add in the chilli and cool. Strain out the chilli when flavoured enough. With a peeler, thinly strip off the skin of 1 lime, cut into fine shreds and blanch for 5-10 minutes in boiling water. Drain and refresh.

Prepare all the fruit, cut into a bowl and then pour over the cold chilli syrup. Add the lime julienne and lime juice to taste and leave for 1/2-1 hour before serving.

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CHESS

Final struggle

Each year the Dutch honour their greatest player Dr Max Euwe, who seized the world championship from Alekhine and held it for two years from 1935-1937.

Earlier this month industrious Netherlands organizers staged the Euwe Memorial International Tournament which reached a World Chess Federation category 16 (the highest possible) with an Elo point average of 2629. The sponsors, Verenigde Spaarbank, provided £12,000 prize money to spur the players on. Full results were:

	K	T	K	W	Pts
1-2 Karpov	22	1/2	1/2	1/2	4
1-2 Timman	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	4
3 Karpov	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	2 1/2
4 v.d.Wiel	0	0	0	1/2	1 1/2

One of the most important games was Karpov's fresh win over Korchnoi. This may well be the last game contested between these giants since Korchnoi, the Soviet defector, has announced that he will never again compete in a tournament with the former world champion.

White: Karpov; Black: Korchnoi.
Bogo-Indian Defence, Euwe Memorial, Amsterdam May 1987.

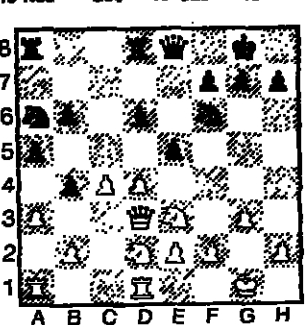
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e5
3 Nf3 Bb4+ 4 Bb2 c5
5 Bxb4

The natural move, dislocating Black's pawn structure. It is much superior to 5 g3, as Kasparov tried against Korchnoi in Brussels last year.

5 ... cxb4 6 Bg5 b5
7 Bb2 Bb7 8 B-0 B-0
9 Qc3 a5 10 a3 Na6
11 Nd2 d6 12 Rd1 Qe7
13 Ne1

Offering an astute exchange of Bishops which removes Black's most active piece.

13 ... Bxg2 14 Nxd2 Rf8
15 Ne3 Qe6 16 Qd3 e5?



A poor advance which leaves Black with weak pawns all over the board. Instead, Black can offer stern resistance with 16 ... Qc6.



Karpov: former world champion

17 Ne4 Nxe4 18 Qxd4 exd4
19 Qxd4 fxe6 20 Rxd4 Rxd4
21 Rxd1 Re6 22 Kf1 b3

Inflicting a further weakness on his own camp. More resilient is 22 ... bxa3, isolating White's "a" pawn.

A desperate sacrifice.
37 Rxd6 Rxd6 38 Rxd6 Nxb2
39 Rb6 Nxd4 34 Rb6+

Of course, Karpov does not fall for the transparent 34 Rxb3? allowing ... Nd2+.

White first centralizes his King. Black's passed pawn cannot run away.
34 ... Kg7 35 Kf2 Kf6
36 e4 Ke5 37 Ke2

Black resigns.

Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Four points from victory

The 80 teams which contested the Hoechst Bridge Tournament at the Kurhaus Hotel in Scheveningen included representatives of international standard from Finland, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Austria, Germany, Poland, Denmark, Britain, the United States and, of course, the home country, the Netherlands.

The strength of the field was only exceeded by the generosity of the sponsors and the customary impeccable organization of the Netherlands Bridge Bond.

As a prelude to the main event, teams from Austria, the US, Britain and Holland took part in a short exhibition contest. Austria, current holders of the European Championship, were expected to win but they were comprehensively defeated by 24-14 to 0 by Britain, who went on to record a confidence-boosting victory.

The format of the event is also excellent. On the first day the teams were divided into eight pools of 10 teams. The top two in each group qualified for the A group final. The remainder were divided into consolation finals, according to their performance in the qualifying rounds. This method caters for the best of all worlds. On the first day the minnows have a big chance to play against the big fish, whereas on the second day they have a real chance of winning against opponents of their own standard.

Britain was represented by

two teams. Kirby, Armstrong, Sheehan and I maintained our form in the exhibition match to win our group.

Forester, Brock, Mrs Landy and Mrs Horton narrowly failed to qualify for Group A but only just missed the first prize in the premier consolation.

In the group A final, we started poorly and a spirited revival left us in fourth place, four tantalizing victory points away from second prize. The result was:

1st: Norway, 134 VPs
2nd: United States, 119 VPs
3rd: CPP (Holland), 119 VPs
4th: Hoechst UK (Britain), 116 VPs.

The US was lucky to find last-minute recruits in the shape of Robson and Higgins, the young British pair who were the only British men to qualify for the final of the World Pairs in Miami. It is encouraging to see a young British pair making their mark in the senior game.

Sheehan and I were playing a new system, which explains our curious bidding on this hand. Great Britain v Holland. Teams. Love All. Dealer East.

♠ J9564
♥ J8764
♦ 1087
♣ 10987

♠ 10987
♥ A105
♦ 10
♣ J92

♠ AKQJ543
♥ 12
♦ AOS
♣ A

♠ AB2
♥ KQ932
♦ AKQ853
♣ A

W N E S

Finn Sheehan

Do12 No No11 46

(1) Equivalent to an opening bid of one club.

(2) Most imprudent, according to Sheehan, but tempting you to agree.

I started with the ♠10. Declarer quickly recovered from the shock of the bad trump break, and set out to limit his losses to 300.

With the idea of scoring his small trumps, at trick two he played a small club. In an attempt to frustrate his plan, I rose with the ♠J, which Sheehan overlooked to play a second club. Declarer ruffed and played a heart.

I could still have saved the day by playing low. Then, provided Sheehan returns a heart, I can retain my club as an exit card. Unwisely, I played the VK and persisted with another club. Declarer ruffed, cashed his top spades and played a second heart. Now when Sheehan played a club, although I could over-ruff, I was then forced to play a red suit. The result was the same in the other room, but it was a lost opportunity.

When you have a stack of sequential trumps over declarer it is often a mistake, as here, to force him to ruff, because the effect is to assist declarer to make his small losing trumps. Although I was the main culprit, Sheehan, by overlooking my ♠J, was possibly guilty of contributory negligence.

Jeremy Flint

VIRGINIA WOLFE, DUNCAN GRANT, VANESSA BELL, ROGER FRY, LAURA ASHLEY.....

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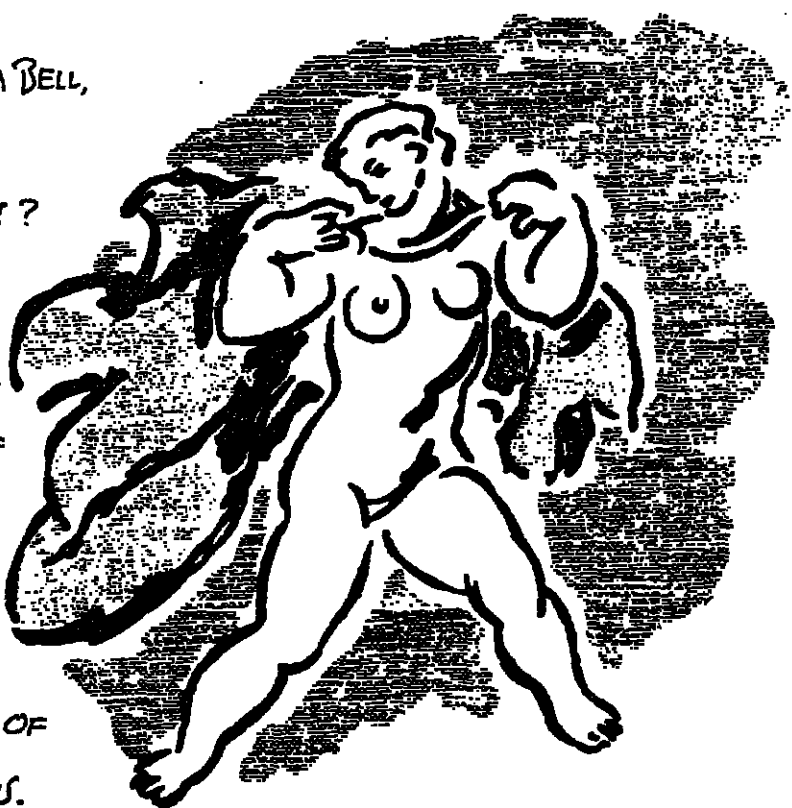
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THE ARTS

How the worms turned

Television programmes like Channel 4's *Right of Reply* and BBC's *Open Air* are popular with broadcasters, if not with viewers, exuding as they do that pliant smell of pseudo-democracy at work.

In these programmes aggrieved viewers are led into a TV studio where, blinded by light and menaced by phallic cameras, with a floor manager making sinister hand signals in the shadows, they are expected, as trembling amateurs, to match wits with

TELEVISION

professional broadcasters who have been expertly briefed and rehearsed. As a rule, the only thing missing from this Roman forum is the scoreline — *Patricians 5, Plebeians 0*.

But not always. Earlier this week a funny thing happened on the way to the forum. For the final edition of *Open Air*, a daytime programme that goes out live, the editor of the series put himself and his colleagues in the hot seat and invited viewers to say their worst. So a panel of five ordinary viewers huddled together on a chaise longue in the BBC's Manchester studio, while the programme's host, Eamonn Holmes, a young Irishman with a remorseless gift for cliché, trained his luminous smile on them.

He beamed in first on a young man he identified as Stephen Ray, from Manchester, who looked pale but ominously calm. It was a mistake. Without raising his voice or muddling his syntax, in a tone that moved steadily between jaunty derision and steely contempt, the young Mancunian delivered a fusillade that brought down everyone in sight. He saved a final devastating burst for Eamonn Holmes himself, who, he said, "only has to sniff a showbiz personality and he's off like a heat-seeking missile to ingratiate himself".

"I suppose you could do better?" sniffed Holmes.

"There are 4½ million people in the naked city who could do your job," said his tormentor evenly, "and still have time to scrub down the BBC steps."

Michael Dean

The Glyndebourne season opens tomorrow with *La traviata*, staged by Sir Peter Hall. He talks to John Higgins about the Sussex connection

Hall's in his operatic haven



Glad to be at Glyndebourne. 17 years on: faithful director Peter Hall

Seventeen springs ago Peter Hall took the train to Lewes to start rehearsal on his first opera for Glyndebourne, Cavalli's *La Calisto*. It was a turning point in his career. Covent Garden had been left abruptly behind and the directorship of the National Theatre was a short way around the corner.

What he could not know was that his relationship with Glyndebourne, which started with a tentative engagement for two baroque operas (Monteverdi's *Ritorno d'Ulisse* was the second), was going to last a full two decades. Hall's plans at the Sussex house now go through to the Mozart bicentennial of 1991, and possibly beyond.

That *Calisto* production came more or less through the old boy network. The conductor was Ray Leppard, a friend from Cambridge days and the RSC as well. Hall himself had been a regular visitor to Glyndebourne as the guest of both George Christie and the then general administrator, Moran Caplat. It turned out a magical evening: a baroque fantasy with Shakespeare lurking somewhere in the wings. But Cavalli's opera was very nearly one of the biggest disasters of his career.

"*Calisto* was an unknown opera as far I was concerned — in effect, a new work. We followed the score

and had the Jove (Ugo Trama) sing falsetto when he was in disguise, but it provoked giggles throughout rehearsals. Ray and I were in despair until we got into the final fortnight and came up with the solution of persuading Janet Baker to sing not only the real Diana but the false one as well. She learned the second part and saved the day."

Sir Peter Hall's immediate concern is with Verdi's *La traviata*, part of a cycle which began with *Boccanegra* and continues with *Falstaff* and *Ballo next season* and the one after.

"Some time ago I sat down with Bernard (Haitink) and Brian (Dickie, the current general administrator) to draw up a list of the Verdi operas we wanted to stage. *Traviata* was at the top. Its intimacy will, I hope, suit Glyndebourne, but I want to stage it not as a weepie but instead as a protest against hypocrisy — the double values of a double-faced society. Germont Père, for example, is a pillar of 19th-century society — a bit like Elisabeth Barrett Browning's father — who wreaks havoc wherever he goes."

"*Traviata* is Verdi at his most ironical: witness the off-stage *banda* in the final act. Or take Alfredo himself, who is naive and self-centred to the point of believing in the impossible. He may

undergo an *education sentimentale* but he has the impertinence to take a woman who sells love off to an existence where they do not have enough pennies to live on. I've attended too many *Traviatas* where Violetta is simply a society lady with a nasty cough."

The major technical problem for Glyndebourne was where to place the long supper interval. Hall argued against dividing the opera after the first scene of Act II, which in terms of actual minutes would have been the obvious break. "One of the keys to the opera is the contrast between country and town. Once Alfredo and Violetta leave St Germain they are back in the facile, selfish, rapacious society of Paris. Split the act and you lose the impact of the contrast. Take the interval at the end of Act II and there is only half an hour's music left. So we have decided to treat the first act almost as a prologue to the opera proper and to break there."

Glyndebourne has remained faithful to Hall and he to it. During the troubles at the National during the mid-Seventies it was both a haven and a place of "creative refreshment". The arrival of Bernard Haitink to conduct the second run of *Don Giovanni* when it was first heard in 1977 cemented the connection

further. Another important influence was Moran Caplat during his long tenure as general administrator. "He handled me with greater wisdom and tact than I could ever have handled myself, and I'm not easy to handle."

When Sir Peter Hall announced his retirement from the National Theatre the operatic offers poured in and he rejected them. "What is the point? You stage a piece and maybe it is fine for six performances, but then on revival it has little to do with your original. I will go back to Los Angeles for a *Trojan* that will be seen later at the Florence Maggio. But Glyndebourne remains the principal base. After the Verdi cycle is finished I'll return to Mozart and tackle once more the three Da Ponte operas. Conductors rethink their time and again so, why should not a director do likewise?"

The ultimate lure of Glyndebourne, though, is the parity between director and conductor. It was established right at the start by Carl Ebert and Fritz Busch and the tradition remains. In all too many houses the opera is put on stage and the conductor arrives late on in proceedings. There are only two houses in the world, Hall reckons, where the director is considered "truly important". The other, of course, is Bayreuth.

ROCK

The Pretenders Wembley Arena

A Pretenders concert is a less interesting proposition in 1987 than it was before Chrissie Hynde took complete charge of the group's affairs, drafting in a couple of baggy-suited introverts in place of the deceased original members, adding subliminal keyboards and, finally, charging a drummer called Blair Cunningham with the thankless task of replacing the mighty Martin Chambers.

Nevertheless, the group's modest work rate — four albums in eight years — ensures a sense of occasion when they do get round to touring, and Hynde remains one of rock's more engaging characters, vigorously anti-establishment, yet touting a decidedly conservative musical portfolio: a classic combination of hippy values.

Sporting her familiar regency ragamuffin look of Sixties brunette bouffante, long white jacket and tight black slacks, she bounced on amid a welter of feedback interference that marred much of the opener, Hendrix's "Room Full of Mirrors". Getting into her stride, she strapped on a guitar for the powerful "Message of Love".

Robbie McIntosh's jingly-jangly guitar sound, and Hynde's strong, tremulous vocal style, conjured a mood of certain nostalgia on "Kid", "Stop Your Sobbing" and "Back on the Chain Gang", while newer material including "Don't Get Me Wrong", the drippy "My Baby" and the dramatically worked "Chill Factor" offered no significant advances on that early blueprint. But their stage formula, apart from being informed by a staid, old-fashioned notion of what being in a rock band is all about, failed to engage the audience with any degree of warmth.

David Sinclair

OPERA

Acts of Faith Donmar Warehouse

enacted amateurs in an "improvisation situation" — was deliberate, but one could find more theatrical flair displayed in the average infant school nativity play.

Under these circumstances the young cast — who apparently prepared for their public ordeal on a course for "pre-vocational education" — deserved some sympathy. Nevertheless, apart from a couple of spirited individuals, the singing was dire. Putting

on an opera needs slightly more than "acts of faith" — or hope or charity. Talent helps too. Only Kate Strachan's crisp, Blake-inspired backcloths showed evidence of that.

So this is "community art". The phrase figures large on Arts Council policy documents these days, but it is not until one sees a show like this that one realizes its true potential. Since *Acts of Faith* was commissioned by the London International Opera Festival, it is being shamelessly marketed alongside Royal Opera and ENO productions. The tourists must be puzzled.

Richard Morrison

Pulling off The Mask

Andrew Davis, who conducted the premiere recording of *The Mask of Time*, talks about Tippett's work

Much has been written about *The Mask of Time* since its first performance in Boston on April 5, 1984. As usual with Tippett's premieres, some critics raved, some were puzzled, some reserved and some downright hostile. Generally, however, the piece has been rightfully recognized not only as one of Sir Michael's greatest works, but also as one of the most remarkable documents of our time on the human condition.

Succinctly stated, *The Mask of Time* is a work of his origins, his history, his fellow creatures and his God, and does so with a poetic apparatus, complex and eclectic even by Sir Michael's standards, and with vocal and instrumental forces which are used with astonishing variety and virtuosity.

The demands on the performers are enormous: Tippett's orchestral writing, as always, presents tremendous challenges to the players, and both soloists and chorus are required to display agility, flexibility and power on an almost unprecedented scale.

The piece takes an extraordinary hold on its interpreters. This, I believe, is simply because the better one gets to know *The Mask*, the more the initially bemusing sense of heterogeneity gives way to the realization that all the diverse parts add up to a musical and philosophical whole, remarkable for its irresistible progression of thought and emotion. The opportunity for "total immersion" in the composer's vision that the release of the EMI recording affords is, therefore, greatly to be welcomed.

Listeners who know their earlier Tippett will find themselves astonished by the way in which the musical quotations and allusions are transformed and deepened by their new context. Many of these allusions have already been recognized, but one which seems to have been universally missed deserves commenting upon here. The depiction in the sixth movement of Shelley's final and fatal flouting of the Mediterranean's power borrows obviously from the ecstatic dance at the end of part one of *The Vision of St Augustine*, the supreme confidence of the latter is, however, seriously undermined by the treacherous glissandi (treacherous for listeners and performers alike), and the result is an overwhelming sense of the reckless and exhilarating embracing of danger and death.

A few words in preliminary defence of the two movements which have received the worst press. The third section "jungle" has been criticized on two counts — firstly, for the naivety of its onomatopoeic animal noises, and here perhaps it suffices simply to say that this was also the chief contemporary criticism of Haydn's *Creation*; and secondly, for its short-windedness — greater familiarity, in my view, reveals its series of vignettes, the slide-show technique you might say, as the perfect change of pace from the great sweep of what precedes and follows it.

The other part of the work which many critics have failed



In defence: Andrew Davis

to understand, especially for its significance in the philosophical and musical structure of the work, is the penultimate movement, the three songs. After the emotional onslaught of the first three sections of part two, the composer/poet retreats from his epic, all-encompassing vision of our world and its perils to consider the place of the individual in the pageant. In both of the first two songs the quotation from earlier passages serves to deepen the meaning.

The last section of *The Mask* is undoubtedly one of Sir Michael's most wondrous achievements in his magical sound world: compositionally it is simplicity itself — the original sound of the work developed and transfigured by a series of overlapping ostinati of different durations — but the effect is of a transcendence in my view unique in musical history; and the final bars are the perfect realization of the composer's not always so successful open ending.

Andrew Davis's recording of *The Mask of Time* is on EMI 27 0567 3.

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Unhappy king

THEATRE

Oedipus Royal Exchange

The two Oedipus plays handed down to us from Ancient Greece, one relating the break-up of his marriage and the other his death in a spot near Athens, are surviving parts of two different trilogies.

Twenty years separate their composition, and where *Oedipus the King* famously expresses profound human yearnings and complaints, the impetus of *Oedipus at Colonus* is political, not to say nationalistic. The city that owns the bones of the sacred outcast will become impregnable, and Sophocles, patriotic Athenian, made sure they ended up in the right soil.

The gulf introduced by this shift in emphasis can never be bridged when the plays are done, as here in Casper Wrede's ambitious production, in a double bill. In the second play, more loosely written and frankly hard to love, Oedipus has become a cantankerous and cursing old

man. It is just possible that David Threlfall's muted performance in the first play is designed to allow him a bridge to that archaic vestige of himself in the second. But this reserve is a fatal impediment to any success in conveying the gathering pain and horror as the truth of his parentage is dragged out.

Lines that can unwind like some grim, unstoppable clockwork lose their power to engage us in Threlfall's husky and slurred speech. There is more true anguish in Espen Skjoberg's appalled Shepherd, or in the moment when the face of Eleanor Bron's Jocasta turns from exquisite beauty to a silently screaming tragic mask.

The integration of a singing and dancing Chorus into the dynamic of the plays is one of the production's certain successes.

On the other hand, to have the main actors chant their dialogue with the Chorus proves very mistaken, never more so than when it follows Threlfall's impressively bloodsoaked entry, "Oh God the pain!", when sung, belongs on *Top of the Pops*.

Jeremy Kingston

RADIO

No End To Dreaming Radio 3

The difficulty with celebrating Laurence Olivier's 80th birthday on radio is that he has been a very rare radio performer — it was in 1955 that he was last heard as an actor on the air. So one means of marking such an occasion — transmitting repeats of old and, if possible, classic performances — does not come readily to hand.

Another standard part of such anniversaries is biographical documentary and this has been provided. *The Player King* (Radio 4, Sunday; producer John Powell) was an inventive compilation by Christopher Cook of reminiscence, assessment and excerpts from some of the more remarkable of Olivier's stage and film interpretations.

However, to provide us with a broadcast performance, radio has had to create one from scratch. *No End To Dreaming*, directed by Ian Couterell, was specially written for Lord Olivier by Peter Barnes, and is the latest in those series of monologues and brief two- or three-handers which Radio 3 has been putting out intermittently under the title of *Barnes' People*.

Barnes has shown himself a master of the monologue and he is in good form here. His subject was an old man, a Polish-American Jew with no one left to talk to, who has bought himself a consultation with an analyst (silent throughout) in order to tell him of a dream which was a turning point in his life. He rambles, he digresses, recalling the Cracow of his childhood and how "dreams and legend were central to our lives". But at last he gets to the point. The dream turns out to be a version in modern dress of a tale famous in Hebrew legend as well as in *The Thousand and One Nights*.

But what of the acting? I am not sure that Olivier's Polish-Jewish-American accent would assure him of anonymity in New York, but it is consistent and full of character. What distinguishes this performance, however, is its variety of mood and pace and tone and, above all, its astonishing energy. The huge presence has survived not only 80 years but, what may be even harder, this late return to radio as well.

David Wade

Cockpit Opera's presentation of Acts of Faith, a new opera by Ian McQueen, is possibly the most abysmal event the West End can currently offer.

McQueen's gormless score stumbles among the trivia of pseudo-gospel and sub-Lloyd Webber clichés without ever revealing any aptitude for melodic invention, orchestration or dramatic understanding.

The libretto, billed as "an exploration of the effects of religious sectarianism on young people", succeeds only in stripping the *Romeo and Juliet* story of structure, tension, poetry and passion. Maybe the stuttering hesitancy — typical of inexperience — is a sign of



Two sides of a triangle: Mark Tinkler (left) as Billy Budd facing John Tomlinson's Claggart

Intimate anguish

Billy Budd Royal, Glasgow

The paradox of all Britten's operas, that the most public of musical forms is being used for the expression of the most intimate personal feelings on the part of the composer, is nowhere more flagrant than in *Billy Budd* before its final full exposure in *Death in Venice*.

However one may read the Vere-Billy relationship, the waves of homo-eroticism around the Novice are quite unmistakable and, especially when one considers that this was commissioned as a Festival of Britain opera for Covent Garden, audacious in the extreme. And when E.M. Forster complained that he missed the sense of "a sexual discharge gone evil" in the setting of the aria for Claggart, he perhaps had not heard, had not had the opportunity to hear, the line that slinks down from the lubricious tone of the saxophone into the depths of the orchestra.

A prime virtue of Graham Vick's new production for Scottish Opera is that it provides the enclosed space in which the work's interior obsessions can be realized. Chris Dyer's set is prominently vertical, with stairways, platforms, catwalks and gantries going right up to the top of the proscenium arch, offering spaces for intimacy and athleticism, but all as if within the barrel of the ship's belly.

There is no sight of sea and weather, which is perhaps unfortunate at the start of the second act; but the marine atmospheres are summoned confidently from the pit by John Mauceri, and the production justifies its concentration on what is private in the opera.

It does so most particularly where Philip Langridge's Captain Vere is concerned. I might call this the best thing he has done, were that not always the impression he gives. But his fine intensity and his close attention to verbal meaning suggest here that one is hear-

ing the immediate voice of conscience. He is not Vere in a play but Vere enacting his memories: the fact that this is an opera of agonized recollection is never forgotten.

There is also an altogether excellent Billy in Mark Tinkler, who has not only the open-hearted voice but also the frank features, the strong, tall physique, the agility and the curls for the role. And the third side of the triangle is set completely in place by John Tomlinson, who finds an even tone of hellish blackness in his voice and moves with slow inevitability.

Among the rest in a cast without weakness, Paul Harry sang and acted gamely against viral ravage to give a beautiful Novice, and John Tranter was totally believable as honest, telegraphic Danish. The choral singing was splendidly strong, and the Scottish rolled Rs of the midshipmen stood immediately in the score.

Paul Griffiths

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

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REVIEW

Engaging musical anarchy

ROCK RECORDS

The Cure: Kiss Me Kiss Me Kiss Me (Fiction FKH 13)
The Weather Prophets: Mayflower (Elevation ELA 1)
The Replacements: Pleased To Meet Me (Sire 925 57) 26

Barry Bob Smith of the Cure has left a musical imprint on Kiss Me Kiss Me Kiss Me that is as pervasively smugged around the edges as his lip-suck tends to be.

The 18 tracks on this double album are all group compositions, and it appears from the long instrumental introductions and the messy, organic pattern of growth taken by the arrangements, that Smith has encouraged the maximum collective input from his musicians, and reaped a particularly engaging harvest from their labour.

Moments of chaotic despondency, like the long, doomy wail-whisper intro to "The Kiss" and the melodramatic delivery of "Torture", rub shoulders with



Sandwiched: The Cure's Bob Smith bright left-field pop songs like "The Perfect Girl" and "Catch", lending a restless, anarchic quality to Kiss Me that often sits uncomfortably, though never disconcertingly, over four sides.

The Weather Prophets' Mayflower, on the other hand, has but one gentle groove that hovers between tenuous Velvet Underground and Ray Davies-style English whimsy. At first it sounds light and refreshing with love songs like "Can't Keep My Mind Off You", but becomes a bit sickly by the time of "Sitting Pool Blue", which predictably sounds like the Housemartins or Freddie and the Dreamers, depending on your generation.

Minnesota rockers, the Replacements, with their album Pleased To Meet Me, are the perfect antidote to all that, blissing out the cobwebs with devastating riffs on "Alex Chilton" and "Shooting Dirty Pool". Travelling in the wake of Georgia Satellites and the Del Fuegos, they sound like one of those perennial swagging bands that will be a must to see live when they visit Britain later this month.

David Sinclair

Grand eccentric

My Grandmothers and I by Diana Holman-Hunt (Hamish Hamilton, £6.95)



"Where is your knitting? I hate to see you idle. If you've lost your tongue you had better read aloud." Such were the instructions of grandmother Freeman.

Diana Holman-Hunt's early life in the 1910s and 1920s. Her grandmother, William Holman-Hunt, the Pre-Raphaelite painter, had died in 1910. Her mother, too, had died; and her father, a renegade Wellingtonian, was a remittance man 8,000 miles away in India.

Diana shuttled between her grandparents Freeman in Sussex, and "Grand", the other grandmother, dotingly eccentric and completely obsessed by her deceased husband, Holman-Hunt.

"Grand" lived alone, bar the odd servant, in London. Her house in Melbury Road was a vast Victorian

treasure-chest, a mausoleum to the memory of the great painter. There was a tea service whose cups had been labelled by "Grand" with the names of the famous who had drunk from them - Edward Lear, Dickens, Burne-Jones, Carlyle.

Compared with the air and light of Sussex, the Melbury Road establishment was oppressive and gloomy. Diana describes the impression of one particular visit: "Nothing was changed in the sitting-room; perhaps the leafy Morris paper was a little darker. The Della Robbia covered with dust, still hung over the fireplace, the vases held the same sprays of honesty and peacock feathers, and the spindly bamboo tables tottered under the heavy weight of papers.

Pre-Raphaelite secrets were given away through the often-repeated stories of "Grand". When Jack Millais painted Guggen as Ophelia, Holman-Hunt made him paint out a rat on the bank which seemed about to bite her throat. Millais's father was a model for The Carpenter's Shop. Turner was "a shabby old man, with a very large head, slovenly in dress as some great men are". George Meredith was the model for "the corpse on the bed in

The Death of Chatterton": Diana remarks that "Grand had told me long ago that the painter Henry Wallis stole his wife, as if one could steal a person".

Diana Holman-Hunt has not lost the enviable ability to speak, and describe, with a child's uncluttered perception and uncomplicated insight. She was haunted by the thought that if the maid could drown kittens, why could she not drown unwanted babies. Later, the terror of having her appendix removed is relieved by a sympathetic surgeon who cuts open her teddy bear's abdomen, repairs his squeak, and sews him up again.

In the end "Grand", suffering from advanced Alzheimer's disease, is destroyed by the advance of science: she is run over by a bus in Kensington High Street. In an operation as grisly as any the side of the Battle of Mons, she has both arms amputated and, not surprisingly, she dies. An age died with her, one that Diana Holman-Hunt has caught to perfection: an age in which, "Grand" recollected, there was "a rag called Household Words - I think it belonged to Dickens".

Brian Martin



Trapped between two cultures

PAPERBACKS

From Sleep Unbound, by Andrée Chedid (Serpent's Tail, £4.95)

Samyra is an Egyptian girl caught between two cultures. As a child she is educated at a convent where she is taught to value herself as a woman. Then when she is 15, her family marry her off to a middle-aged farmer whom she hates. He is a rigid authoritarian - "the sort of man who crushes life" - and soon just the sound of his voice is enough to send her into a state of torpor almost as if she were

sleepwalking. There can be no escape from his horrible house with its heavy velvet curtains and stuffy rooms, but her education has given her hope. She looks forward to the future when she thinks, "our daughters will no longer be like moss growing around the trunks of dead trees".

The story is written backwards. It starts with an act of violence symbolizing all she feels and then goes back to fill in the details. It is told rapidly and simply and the translation carefully emphasizes the sense of frustrated energy. It is a bitter comment on the experience of women.

Waterloo, Waterloo by Teresa Waugh (Penguin, £2.95)

Retirement, particularly in the country, can be very stressful. Major Jack Bennett and his brassy wife have decided to run a village shop to fill out their lives and their pension when he leaves the army. They find little comfort in it.

She spends the day fidgeting inefficiently round the shelves and complaining between cups of coffee, while he retreats to his toy soldiers in the garage and imagines that he is Napoleon ordering huge military manoeuvres. It would be a dispiriting story if it were not

for Teresa Waugh's strong sense of the absurdity and snobbery of country life, and her extraordinary ability to carry a tone of voice or pattern of speech. A series of small but telling incidents follow one another in quick succession almost like the scenes of a satirical revue.

Most of the characters are more or less unhappy with themselves and each other but they are never allowed to be dreary. Full of wit and insight, this novel has some brilliant moments. Any Waugh would be proud of them.

Anne Barnes

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Prokofiev: Le Pas d'acier/On the Dnieper: USSR Ministry of Culture SO/Rozhdnestvensky. Olympia CD 103

Myaskovsky: Sorenada/Sinfonia/Orchestra No 18: Various Orchestras/Verbitsky/Mikailov. OGD 105

The Dnieper, whose refined, sour-sweet lyricism bears witness to the ease and pleasure Prokofiev experienced in writing this narrative folk-ballad. The depth and clarity of the recorded acoustics in the solemn orchestral scene is typical of this, one of the first releases from Olympia. The label plans to make available all the new Russian releases you ever wanted to buy on Melodija but were too daunted to seek out.

One of their most valuable projects will be the rehabilitation

of the almost wholly excellent new jazz: The Essential Companion, a long-awaited replacement for Leonard Feather's series of jazz encyclopaedias, co-authored Brian Priestley devotes a paragraph to the career of Barney Wilen. The saxophone-playing Nicois made his mark as a precocious 20-year-old member of the band with which Miles Davis recorded the soundtrack to the 1957 film *L'été de la St-Jean*. Priestley takes Wilen's story no further than 1969 - for the lack, one can only assume, of evidence.

A few weeks ago, in a review of a record by Bobby Jaspar, another gifted Continental saxophonist of the Fifties, I expressed the belief that Wilen, like Jaspar, had gone to a premature death. Now here he comes, as fit as a fiddle, captured in Paris not six months ago and ready to be rediscovered.

Hilary Finch

NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION
Consider The Lilies, by Iain Crichton Smith (Canongate Classics, £2.95) The Highland Clearances by old woman evicted from her croft who recalls her life in flashback
Facial Justice, by L.P. Hartley (Oxford, £3.95) Nightmare dystopia after World War Three, extrapolating modern Britain
Langshate, Go Down, by Aidan Higgins (Griffon, £3.50) Powerful and witty story of Irish splinter's one love affair in that unloving land with eternal German student
Tennis and the Masai, by Nicholas Best (Arrow, £2.50) Kenya prep school in Rider Haggard territory with touch of the Sharpeas
NON-FICTION
Confessions of an Optimist, by Woodrow Wyatt (Collins, £6.95) Outrageous, funny indiscretions of a libertarian
Doublets, by Karl Miller (Oxford, £6.95) The second self or doppelgänger in literature with wit and scholarship
The Force of Poetry, by Christopher Ricks (Oxford, £5.95) Essays from Sam Johnson to Larkin, and Gower to Stevie Smith by the closest of close readers and scholars
The Rich Get Richer, by John Rentoul (Unwin, £4.95) The growth of inequality in Britain in the '80s by New Statesman hack

JAZZ RECORDS

Barney Wilen La Note Bleue (Ida 010)

Roger Guerin & Benny Golson (Fresh Sound/Columbia FP 1117)

The recording of La Note Bleue appears to have been precipitated by the publication of *Barney et la note bleue*, a stylish comic book in which the artist Louisel and the writer Philippe Farguoux create around the young Wilen the sort of jazz *noir* atmosphere tapped by Bertrand Tavernier for *Round Midnight*.

Wilen responds by showing that his years out of the public eye have done no damage to his artistry: versions of "Besame Mucho", "Whisper Not", "Harlem Nocturne" and "Round Midnight" culminate in a majestic reading

of "Goodbye", Gordon Jenkins's great ballad.

Among Wilen's compatriots in the field of modern jazz, the trumpeter Roger Guerin deserved a grander reputation. Recorded at the end of 1958, *Roger Guerin & Benny Golson* - the only album ever issued under his name - teamed him with the celebrated saxophonist and the pianist Bobby Timmons, both visiting Paris with the Jazz Messengers.

Abetted by Pierre Michelot's bass and Christian Garros's drums, Guerin shows himself to have been conceptually and technically the full equal of almost all the more famous names who filled the Messengers' trumpet chair during that era. Issued like *La Note Bleue*, on a small Continental label, this music will fully reward whatever effort is necessary to track it down.

Richard Williams

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

A novel ending

Good news this morning for the 100 or so shipwrecked authors on the list of publishers Allison & Busby. They will be getting their money. The firm blacklisted for several years by both the Society of Authors and Guild of Writers for its haphazard accounting, finally went to the wall last month. Now they are to be rescued by W. H. Allen, and the deal is expected to be signed next week.

Allen's deputy managing director Matt Witherspoon said: "Ask any authors you know on Allison & Busby's list to get in touch with me. We are keen to have them and we are trying to contact them all." Despite an accounting system which drove A&B's writers to distraction, the publishing house still managed to collect a respectable list of writers from the late Colin MacLennan to Bridget Brophy. A two-part deal has been worked out with the Official Receiver as to how much W.H. Allen will pay for the company - depending on how many authors they pick up out of the debris. No word yet, however, on the fate of directors Margaret Busby and Clive Allison.

Big night out

Plácido Domingo will haul his not inconsiderable bulk into the orchestra pit at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on June 7 to pay his own special tribute to Alan Jay Lerner, who died last summer.

Having sung *The Rain in Spain* (in English and Spanish) with Lerner's widow, Liz Robertson, he will fulfil his long-held ambition to conduct



Domingo and Robertson

the Ascot Gavotte from *My Fair Lady*. The United Kingdom Symphony Orchestra are duly warned. Tickets are still available for the star-studded evening which will include the cast of *Les Misérables*.

Sealed its fate

Producer Andre Ptaszynski on the closure of *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* in the West End: "I put it all down to Brigitte Bardot's successful efforts to prevent seal culling in the Leshoten Islands off Norway. The islanders had a terrible financial winter so they couldn't afford to come over and see the show."

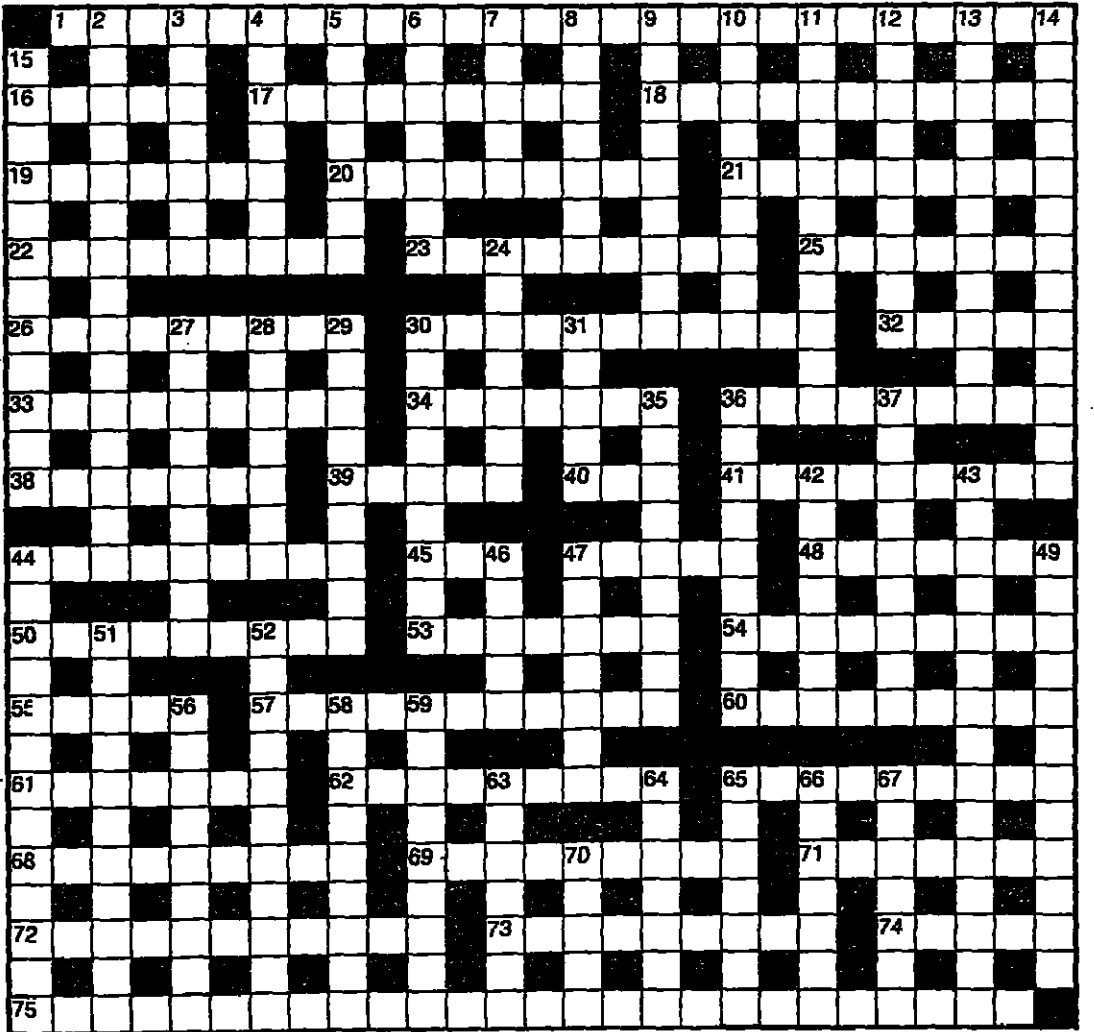
Christopher Wilson

The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword

- ACROSS
- Hence the fitness of the future they say in the industrial North (5,6,4,6,5).
 - Short stop here, finding one of the lepidoptera (5).
 - Equipment used - a medical matter that includes a trap possibly (9).
 - As delighted as the nursery cook (4,3,4).
 - "One crowded hour of glorious life" worth such an age (Mordunard) (7).
 - Make 180-degree turn round the front (5-4).
 - Take letter right away for repair of domestic boiler (3-6).
 - Join in action, even perhaps after a season out west (9).
 - Adorn with laurels the odd ten, we hear (9).
 - One woman's heart throb provides the driving force (7).
 - Dressed like a dispossessed tenant (6,3).
 - This ice-cream from the cornucopia? (5-6).
 - Studies the sound of some wind instruments (5).
 - These movements in the main are minimal (4,5).
 - Work unit holds possible link with Black Forest menace (3-4).
 - Rock for George's musical interval (9).
 - Featured in an epic, enemies of both sexes (7).
 - Stops losing head and relaxes (5).
 - Fellow's put on the river (3).
 - Simpleton Subway for instance? (9).
 - Poor man's weather-glass much sought after by the French (9).
 - No end of a craze for this horseplay (3).
 - A step up for the leading player who accepts one (5).
 - Was discontented being long in debt (7).
 - What the ghost in Hamlet did to the glimpses of the moon (9).
 - A little time getting round this part in a duet (7).
 - Sound of a cheap gramophone from backstreet going round in squares? (9).
 - Bad smell round River Tyne, say? (5).
 - Daringly confounding Claudius with all our women's leaders (11).
 - Old film musical showing no end of go? (9).
 - Alfred Jingle and Rachael Wardle put work into construction of reels (7).
 - Branded as a swimmer? (9).
 - A high one enjoyed by the jet set (silly getting feet twisted) (4-5).
 - Fruit provides heavenly drink in the orient (9).
 - In flight without a knowledge of Rip Van Winkle's long-delayed experience (9).
 - Lack of energy to contrive goal run (7).
 - One of Man Mountain's captors (11).
 - Means of controlling pipes in a loft (5-4).
 - Black square of Omar's penal reform plans would make the convict (1,6,2,8,9).

- DOWN
- Philanthropy? One in our race tops it with heresy (11).
 - Physicist takes engineer to the wall over the Channel (7).
 - Leaders in the war confuse with nonsense talked (7).
 - Make amends for Irishman catching one in the river (7).
 - An entrance for the waves we hear (3-4).
 - Church anthem makes a bit of dust before the end of it (5).
 - Conspirator half dead in the waterfall (7).
 - Tree was to ruin a small motor-car (3-6).
 - Cement jet mishandled results in dispossession (9).
 - Former custom of interstate personnel transfer (11).
 - Put down buzzer and ring for Holmes in his final role (9).
 - A cask of this wine was Poe's illusory bait (11).
 - The folly of being knocked out (13).
 - A chance replacement of head of house by oddly attractive fellow you know (12).
 - A vian appendages used by Innisfree cabin builder (7).
 - Army technicians in tents cooked this dish (9).
 - Aged head (held one, possibly) might be so addressed (3,4).
 - Curtains thus decorated? Sell between various dates (9).
 - Valuables which need no anti-theft insurance in heaven (9).
 - Single cover containing a Greek epic (5).
 - Record of descent that's sadly gone agley (9).
 - Little change once in France, better change the actress's part (9).
 - Doing away with fisticuffs (9).
 - Mrs Malaprop reprehended "a nice - ment of epitaphs" (7).
 - A musical call to arms (5,3,4,3).
 - With a nail and two raps he repaired these trappings (13).
 - In odd parts of Greece know to recognize this lizard (5).
 - Goes out rising round leader of new Muslim sect (7).
 - Break up inside target that's faulty (12).
 - One instrument on another or the latter in full (11).
 - Metamorphose rail transport, removing one digit (11).
 - Fish, guardsman - some bird! (9).
 - Diana's meat is about £1 - lack of credit (9).
 - Mango mixed with corn makes this old man indisposed (3-6).
 - The devil of a topping game with sticks and string (7).
 - Headgear giving no protection against the rain anyhow (4-3).
 - Beneficiary of entrance money in general (7).
 - Mineral which knocks father down, we hear (7).
 - By which a rose would smell as sweet (7).
 - Bird once good for a sawbuck (5).

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Monday, June 8. Entries should be sent to The Times Jumbo Crossword, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be published on Saturday, June 13. NB: Puzzlers are reminded that words which are joined after elision are clued as one word, so "Bob's your uncle" would be clued as (4,4,5).



Concise Jumbo Crossword

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear on Monday.

- ACROSS
- Environmental legislation (4,3,7,8,4)
 - French drinker (5)
 - Prudent (9)
 - Current step device (11)
 - Eyelash cosmetic (7)
 - With impaired breathing (9)
 - Curmudgeon (9)
 - Eg. Athens, Carthage, Sparta (4,5)
 - Pear tree bird (9)
 - Not harmonious (9)
 - Old double bass (11)
 - Life termination (5)
 - Carries ensign (5,4)
 - In no place (7)
 - Long for (4,5)
 - Surprise attackers (7)
 - Very small (5)
 - Weakness (3)
 - As fast as possible (9)
 - Spy quarry (5,4)
 - Sailor (3)
 - Girondo left bank wine (5)
 - Scared (7)
 - Dvina river port (9)
 - Consign (7)
 - Stress (9)
 - Roughly about (5)
 - Extra dress items (11)
 - Polished stone tool period (9)
 - Great tiredness (9)
 - Mature insect (5)
 - Crimean War epic poem (3,6,2,3,7)
- DOWN
- Antonym (8,7)
 - 1066 invaders (7)
 - Eric/Onario river (7)
 - Swampy rose (7)
 - Cure upwards (7)
 - Absolutely forbidden (5)
 - One who gives way (7)
 - Small flat fish (6,3)
 - Close estimate (4,5)
 - Teachers (11)
 - Embank (2,2,5)
 - Willingly obedient (11)
 - Nitrite (7)
 - Restaurant, hotel, bill percentage (7,6)
 - Proton count (6,6)
 - Take flight (3,4)
 - Roman moneys (9)
 - Tinkling percussion keyboard (7)
 - Snack (5,4)
 - Satisfied, happy (9)
 - Thatching stalks (5)
 - Processes with speed (9)
 - Erase computer memory (9)
 - European Jew (9)
 - Hair wash liquid (7)
 - Uncomplicated, direct (15)
 - Premises inspection authorisation (6,7)
 - Antique copy (5)
 - Huge (7)
 - Winding down of tension (2-10)
 - Quoin (11)
 - Parent's mother (11)
 - Following period (9)
 - Insurable against loss (9)
 - Pack fodder (5,4)
 - Surprise exclamation (7)
 - Buying, selling (7)
 - Maxim (7)
 - Uncovered (7)
 - Swarming (7)
 - Advantage (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1264 (yesterday's crossword)

ACROSS: 1 Cope 4 Submit 7 Nease 8 Camargue 9 Chancel 11 Lash 12 Lord Privy Seal 15 Taper 16 Bargain 20 Chessmen 23 Cio 22 Theory 23 Sautie.

DOWN: 1 Cynical 2 Junia 3 Emcee 4 Some 5 Migrate 6 Tenth 10 Caper 11 Layer 13 Replete 14 Lunatic 15 Tact 17 Amass 18 Allot 19 Grey.

SOLUTION TO NO 1259 (last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Music 4 Puppies 8 Yielding 9 Bouquet Garni 15 Oliver 16 Circle 17 Raggle-taggle 23 Aurocity 24 Seem 25 Accent 26 Sexton.

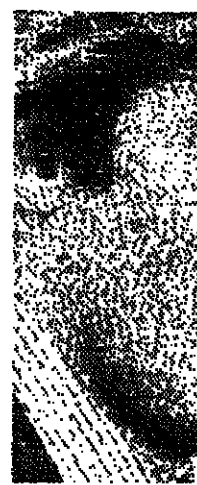
DOWN: 1 Much 2 Supposing 3 Coyou 4 Fleat 5 Media 6 Canon 18 Quail 11 Going 12 Recollect 13 Item 14 Scar 18 Alike 19 Globe 20 Edict 21 Abyss 22 Amen.

Name

Address

The winners of prize concise No 1259 are: Mrs M.C. Lindop, Hurst Flats, University of Warwick, Coventry; and Mrs Freda Adams, Agnes Road, Blundellsands, Liverpool.

THE WEEK AHEAD



FILMS

BREAK IN: Gerard Depardieu puts his big, lugubrious features to effective use in *Tenue de Soirée* (18), a determined essay in outrageous anarchy by the writer-director Bertrand Blier. Depardieu plays Bob, a housebreaker who enlists two other drifters into the trade. The film restored Blier's box-office fortunes in France after several bleak years. Michel Blanc and Mimi-Mimi are the co-stars. Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366), Gate Notting Hill (01-221 0220) and Cannon Tottenham Road (01-836 6148), from Friday.



OPERA

VERDI'S DEBUT: Marie McLaughlin opens the Glyndebourne season when she sings the title role in Verdi's *La traviata*, the first time the opera has been heard in the Sussex house. It is staged by Sir Peter Hall, with whom McLaughlin worked when she played Micaela in *Carmen*, her only previous Glyndebourne role. Elsewhere — Covent Garden, Berlin, Vienna — she has specialized in Mozart. But there was that memorable Glinda in the ENO-Jonathan Miller *Pagliasetto*. Glyndebourne (0273 541111), tomorrow.



BOOKS

SCOTCH GALORE: Compton Mackenzie was one of the most celebrated Scots of our century, bestriding the literary world from high-brow to best-seller: a brilliant early broadcaster and champion of Scottish nationalism, Siamese cats, and gramophone records. Mackenzie came to depreciate himself as a mere entertainer: in this entertaining new biography *Compton Mackenzie* (Chatto & Windus, £16) argues that the activities of this contradictory and flamboyant Scot were all of a piece.



RADIO

733 DECLARED: Brian Johnston takes his leave of *Down Your Way* after 15 years and 733 programmes when he visits Lord's cricket ground, and talks to such luminaries as Denis Compton and Colin Cowdrey. Johnston, who is 75 next month, will have presented the same number of *Down Your Ways* as the previous incumbent, Franklin Engelmann. This is not a total retirement for Johnston, whose bonhomie and dreadful jokes will continue to enliven Test Match Special. Radio 4 long wave, tomorrow, 5.05-5.50pm.



CONCERTS

RUSSIAN SALAD: Yuri Temirkanov is one of several leading Soviet musicians appearing at the Bath Festival, which this year has a Russian theme. Artistic director and chief conductor of the Kirov Opera, Temirkanov works regularly in Britain and the United States. He conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in works by Rimsky-Korsakov and Stravinsky and in Dvorak's Cello Concerto, in which the soloist is another Russian, Natalia Gutman, Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 22957), Wednesday, 7.30pm.



THEATRE

MISS PIGGY: Peggy Mount, formidable comedienne and actress, takes the role of Ursula, the Pig-Woman, in Ben Johnson's *Bartholomew Fair*, the opening production in Regent's Park this summer. Playwright Peter Barnes directs this bawdy, rambling comedy, which also features Christopher Biggins and Peter Bayles. A Jacobean fair with entertainers and stalls will be set up around the theatre. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, London NW1 (01-486 2431), previews from Friday.

THEATRE OPENINGS

MOSES: Eccentric comedienne Rose English in the show which sold out its first run here earlier this year. Drill Hall Arts Centre, 16 Chertsey Street, London WC1 (01-837 8270). Opens Tues. Until June 13.

MY SISTER IN THIS HOUSE: Wendy Kesselman's 1981 award-winning American play, based on the same real-life French tragedy which inspired Genet's *The Maids*, directed by Nancy Meckler, with Maggie Steed, Tilly Vosburgh, Suzanne Hamilton, Maggie O'Neill. Hampstead (01-722 9301). Preview Tues. Opens Wed.

A NIGHT ON THE TOR: Premiere of a three-handed play by Carey Harrison, who also directs this tale of a couple camping out in the West Country. Oval House Upstairs, 54 Kennington Oval, London SE11 (01-582 7880). Opens Wed.

PAIN OF YOUTH: British premiere of Austrian Ferdinand Bruckner's 1928 study of hedonistic students in Vienna after the First World War. Patti Love directs Tim Woodward, Paul Mooney, Jonathan Oliver, Joanne Pearce. Gate Theatre Club, Prince Albert, 11 Pembroke Road, London W11 (01-229 0706). Opens Tues.

RELEVO: David Spencer's first play, winner of the 1987 Verity Barget Award, is an account of a failing marriage. Sue Dunderdale directs Jeff Rawle, Mary Jo Randle, Richard Albrecht. Soho Poly, 16 Riding House Street, London W1 (01-636 9050). Previews from Thurs. Opens June 1.

THREE SISTERS: Greenwich Theatre's Elijah Moshinsky production of the Chekhov play, transferred with some changes. On the Wall, Manchester (061 834 1786). Geoffrey Chater, Rob Heyland, Sara Kestelman, Ian Ogilvy, Susan Penhaligon, Katharine Schlesinger, Ron Cook. Albany (01-636 3678). Previews from Fri. Opens June 3.

OBSESSIONS/SIEGFRIED SASSOON: Two fund-raising shows for the theatre. Denis Quilley hosts John Alderton, Pauline Collins, Maureen Lipman and others, in a show of favourite words and music. Peter Barkworth presents his successful one-man show. New End, Hampstead (01-794 0022). *Obsessions*, tomorrow; *Siegfried Sassoon*, Mon.

SELECTED

JEEVES: Edward Duke plays Bertie, his man and sundry others in a likeable trip into Wodehouse. Wyndham's Theatre (01-836 3028).

PEOPLE SHOW NO 92: WHISTLESTOP: The lively company climb aboard the Chattanooga Choo-choo for an evening of jazz and Pythonesque fun. Bush Theatre (01-743 3388).

COURT IN THE ACT: Gabrielle Drake dazzles Michael Denison and Lee Montague with her briefs in this genial French farce. Phoenix (01-836 2294).

OUT OF TOWN

BELFAST: It's a Madhouse: Touring production of Alan Bleasdale's black comedy, set in a mental hospital ward. With Ken Farrington, David Ross, Judith Barker, directed by Kenneth Alan Taylor. Grand Opera House (0232 241919). Opens Mon. Until May 30.

TELEVISION

TURANDOT: Live relay from Covent Garden of Andrei Serban's vivid production of the Puccini opera, with Gwyneth Jones (in the title role) and Franco Bonisolli. BBC2, Mon 7.25-10.20pm.

Theatre: Tony Patrick and Jeremy Kingston: Films Geoff Brown: Concerts: Max Harrison: Opera: Hilary Finch: Rock: David Sinclair: Jazz: Richard Williams: Dance: John Fretwell: Walks: Greta Carlaw: Galleries: David Lee: Television, Radio and Films on TV: Peter Wymark: Photography: Michael Young: Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.



THE GLORY OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE: The glory of the Italian Renaissance is epitomized by the fresco paintings by Michelangelo (above) on the ceiling of the Vatican's Sistine Chapel. After gathering grime for 450 years, the paintings are being cleaned and restored, thanks to funds from the Japanese television company, NTV. The story is told by the art historian, Professor Sir John Hale, in *Michelangelo Revealed*. BBC1, Friday, 10.55-11.45pm.

THE MEDIA SHOW: Examines the operation of the ITV network and asks whether the domination of the Big Five companies is at the expense of better programmes. Channel 4, Wed 9.05-10.05pm.

THE MECCA OF MOTORCYCLING: An 80th birthday documentary on the Isle of Man TT and the world's most dangerous race track, which has claimed more than 140 lives. BBC1, Thurs, 6.40-7.35pm.

JAZZ

ALAN SKIDMORE: The gifted saxophonist leads a quartet featuring the trumpeter Guy Barker. Tonight, Exeter Arts Centre (0392 218188); tomorrow, Bell Inn, Yeovil; Mon, Four Bars Inn, Cardiff (0222 374961); Tues, Braunstone, Leicester (0533 891115); Wed, Old Vic, Nottingham (0602 585127); Thurs, Band on the Wall, Manchester (061 834 1786).

WOODY HERMAN BAND: Sounding like the all-time Herman, but led by another great clarinetist, Buddy DeFranco, and featuring the distinguished singer Anita O'Day. Tomorrow, Wyvern Theatre, Swindon (0793 24481).

NORMA WINSTONE: Assisted by Jeff Clyne (bass) and Phil Lee (guitar), Miss Winstone sings the standards and original material heard on her recent ECM album. Tomorrow, Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476).

BUD SHANK: Now a more muscular stylist than in his salad days, the West Coast alto saxophonist leads a quartet. Mon to Sat, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth Street, London W1 (01-439 0747).

FILMS

OPENINGS

THE WHISTLE BLOWER (PG): British thriller set in the murky maze of Britain's security services. Based on John Hale's novel. Simon Langton directs, with Michael Caine, Nigel Havers, James Fox (01-836 8279). Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636), from Fri.

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS (15): Neil Simon's autobiographical comedy about a Brooklyn teenager's family problems in 1937. Director, Gene Saks; with Blythe Danner, Bob Dishy and Jonathan Silverman. Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 8279). Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636), from Fri.

MASQUES (15): Claude Chabrol's latest foray into the cruelty and deceptions of the French bourgeoisie, with Philippe Noiret as a television personality with much to hide. Cannon Swiss Centre (01-439 4470). Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772), from Fri.

SELECTED

PRICK YOUR EARS (18): Joe Orton's life, loves and murder. Strong performances from Gary Oldman and Alfred Molina. Curzon West End (01-439 4805).

THREE MEN AND A CRADLE (PG): Winning French comedy about three bachelors seduced by a baby, written and directed by Coline Serreau. Odeon Kensington (01-802 6644). Screen Baker Street (01-935 2772).

CONCERTS

BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Under conductor David Zinman, they will play Schumann's Symphony No 2 and Rado's *Concerto K 503*. Also on their programme is the first performance in Britain of *Bump* by Christopher Rouse. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 91-928 8800). Tomorrow 3pm.

FROM LA: The Los Angeles Philharmonic is conducted by André Previn in the rather sharply contrasted Symphony No 1 of Shostakovich. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 91-928 8800). Today 7.30pm.

HIND'S HENZE: Hans Werner Henze's Piano Concerto No 2 is played by Rolf Hind with the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra under James Blair. For and aft: Mozart's *Zauberflöte* Overture and Beethoven's Symphony No 7. St John's, Smith Sq, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Today 7.30pm.

HUGHES'S SCHERZARMONIA: Dvorak's *Scherzo Capriccioso* and Symphony No 5 are performed by the Philharmonia Orchestra under Gwyneth Jones. Hughes, in Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto Oscar Shumsky is the soloist. Festival Hall, Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

MOZART/MAHLER: Mozart's *Zauberflöte* Overture, Piano Concerto K 503 (soloist, Christian Zacharias) and Mahler's Symphony No 1 "Titan" are juxtaposed by the LSO under Leonard Slatkin. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891). Tomorrow 7.30pm.

BEETHOVEN ENDS: The London Fortepiano Trio concludes its series devoted to Beethoven's piano trios by playing the Trios Opp 70 No 2 and 97 "Archduke". Wigmore Hall, 38 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-635 2141). Mon, 7.30pm.

RUSSIAN EVENING: Leonard Slatkin conducts the LSO in Glinka's *Russian* and Tchaikovsky's Overture and Tchaikovsky's

Symphony No 6 "Pathétique." John Lill solos in Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 3. Barbican Centre, Tues, 7.45pm.

CRUSAID MUSIC: Emma Kirby, James Bowman and the Baroque Ensemble under Robert King perform Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and songs and duets by Dowland, Handel and Purcell in aid of Crusaid, a charity devoted to those suffering from AIDS. St John's, Thurs, 7.30pm.

FILMS ON TV

GREASE (1978): Energetic rendering of a 1950s high school musical, with a star performance from disco king John Travolta. BBC1, today 6.50-8.35pm.

BUNNY LAKE IS MISSING (1965): Laurence Olivier as a police inspector on the trail of a missing child. Channel 4, today 10.15pm-12.10am.

CHAMPION (1949): Kirk Douglas stars as a ruthless boxer determined to succeed at all costs. BBC1, Fri 11.45pm-1.20am.



Victoria Tennant plays a B-film leading lady in Matthew Chapman's stylish and affectionate homage to the Hollywood film noir, *Strangers Kiss*. Made in 1983, but set in the 1950s, *Strangers Kiss* is also a homage to Stanley Kubrick, echoes the plot of Kubrick's first feature, *Elmer's Kiss*, charting a triangular love story set in the world of professional boxing. Channel 4, Thursday, 9.05-10.45pm.

GALLERIES OPENINGS

THE ART OF WATERCOLOUR: Besides the obvious British inclinations, this enjoyable survey includes Durer, Tiepolo, Cezanne, Delacroix and Georgia O'Keeffe. Athenaeum Gallery, Princess St, Manchester (061 2369422), Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until June 28. From today.

KYFFIN WILLIAMS: Retrospective of paintings by a popular RA whose subject is the Welsh countryside and its peoples. Mostyn Art Gallery, 12 Vaughan St, Llandudno, Gwynedd (0492 79201), Tues-Sat 11-5pm, Fri 11-8pm, free, until July 19. From today.

BILL WOODROW: Sculpture in which discarded materials are transformed into poetic metaphors for industrial over-production and waste. Lisson Gallery, 66-68 Bell St, London NW1 (01-724 2739), Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until June 20. From Wed.

KAREL APPEL: Recent paintings and sketches by a founder member of the savagely expressionist Cobra group formed in 1947. Fabian Carlson Gallery, 160 New Bond St, London W1 (01-409 0619), Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until June 13. From Wed.

EAT ART: 35 distinguished artists, Josef Herman and Ghisla Koenig included, have made work in various media on the subject of food. Boundary Gallery, 98 Boundary Rd, London NW8 (01-624 1126), Tues-Sat 11-6pm, free, until June 27. From Thurs.

SELECTED

PAINTING WOMEN: Absorbing examination of pictures by Victorian women artists. Rochdale Art Gallery, Esplanade, Rochdale (0706-342154), Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Wed 10-1pm, Sat 10-4pm, free, until May 30.

GEORGE STUBBS (1724-1806): Prints depicting famous



Bad publicity: The Beastie Boys, left, are now getting the negative press that used to go to their "co-headliners", Run DMC

Just nice boys at heart

"There's a certain virtue in negative publicity, and a lot of it has come from us just being ourselves, particularly on stage; but there's a world of difference between that and beating up cripples, or whatever we're supposed to have done according to these latest stories."

Mike D of the Beastie Boys is speaking from a hotel room in Berlin, and far from displaying any of the cocksure belligerence for which his group has become notorious, he sounds deeply depressed. The 20-year-old youth, who lives harmoniously with his well-to-do Jewish parents in Manhattan's West Village, and who will be a millionaire once the royalties for his group's debut album, *Licensed To Ill*, have filtered through, has been learning a painful lesson.

Having courted a degree of bad publicity in the honourable rock 'n' roll tradition established since 1956, when Elvis Presley was banned from appearing in certain states because of his "provocative" gyrations, the Beasties have fallen foul of the Pandora's box effect that such a reputation encourages. Mike D is horrified to realize that a single uncorroborated account, immediately and categorically denied on all

sides, but nevertheless printed in a British tabloid paper, should be so readily and widely believed.

"We're outraged," he says, apparently ingenuously.

Among hysterical calls from Peter Bruinvis MP and Mary Whitehouse for the group's British tour permits to be revoked, constant protests from Tipper Gore's Washington "clean up rock" campaigners, and a wave of scorn from the puritan Left, who condemn their "unsound" politics and loathe them for their middle-class background, little has been said about the Beastie Boys' music.

But when they appeared in London last September, supporting Run DMC, they turned in a staggeringly good 10-minute performance, a blast of high-energy rap/metal that was reminiscent of the very finest moments of punk: aggressive, exciting, funny and fresh. *Licensed To Ill* was voted the critics' No 1 album of 1986 in *Melody Maker* long before all the media ballyhoo.

Even less has been said about Run DMC, who are "co-headliners" on this tour, but who will nevertheless be the closing act to appear each night. They too have had their fair share of bad publicity in America, where a series of reports linked their concerts to ugly scenes of violence. Strangely, such stories have dried up in the wake of the current Beastie Boys' outrages.

Despite their detractors' best efforts, the Beastie's giant hydraulic phallus will be featured on the UK tour. "When we thought of using it for a prop, we thought it was pretty much funniest thing in the entire world," Mike D explains. "But when you get to Boise, Idaho, out in the sticks, it takes on this whole new meaning as being the worst thing that the town has seen in 20 years."

Isn't it time to put a brake on this horseplay? "I will not go out there and be responsible for the world, that is not what I do, but... I have learnt to pause a bit longer before I answer any questions."

David Sinclair

THE JOCKEY CLUB: Brought Scott looks at the ruling body of horse racing in the final programme of the series, *Pillars of Society*. Radio 4, Thurs, 7.40-8.25pm.

ROCK

CLIVE GREGSON & CHRISTINE COLLISTER: Gregson was guitarist with Any Trouble, and Collister was the singer of the *Life and Loves of a She-Devil* theme. Currently moonlighting from Richard Thompson's band. Tonight, Bloomsbury Theatre, London WC1 (01-387 9629); tomorrow, Chester Folk Festival (0244 350502); Mon, Islay Folk Festival, Islay, Gwent (0495 222173); Tues, Band On The Wall, Manchester (061 834 1786); Fri, Royston Rhythm & Folk Club, Stevenage (0763 42003).

THE THOMPSON TWINS: Due to poor ticket sales, this is a truncated version of the original tour. Their recent single, "Get That Love", flopped, and they have much to prove on this handful of remaining dates. Tomorrow, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0602 473202); Mon, Birmingham Odeon (021 643 6101); Tues, Mayflower, Southampton (0703 229772); Wed, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081).

RANDY NEWMAN: Best known for his 1977 US hit "Short People", the idiosyncratic singer-songwriter makes his first British appearance since 1983. Tomorrow, London Palladium, W1 (01-437 7373).

RADIO

BERLIN EVENING: A series of programmes to mark the Queen's visit to the German city begins with *The Island City* (7.20pm), a documentary by the writer Jack Higgins. Also *Rushon to the Rails* (8.05pm) in which Willie Rushon takes to the Berlin underground; *The Price of Peace* (8.25pm), report by Max Eastman from East Berlin; and *Father's Lying Dead on the Ironing Board* (11.15pm), a history of Berlin cabaret. Radio 4, Monday.

GEORGIAN DANCERS: One more week in London by these proud folk dancers. Palladium (01-437 7373) until May 30.

SCOTTISH BALLET: Peter Darrell's beautifully adapted *Tales of Hoffman* is revived for a four-week tour. Theatre Royal Glasgow (041 331 1234) Tues to May 30.

FESTIVALS: Brighton Festival (0273 674357) has Second Stride at the Gardner Centre tonight, Passage Nord at the Sals Cross Theatre today and Sun. Portsmouth Festival (0705 824355) has Baroque Mimi Aboriginal dancers at the New Theatre Royal today, followed Mon-May 30 at The Hombray by the One Extra Dance Company, also from Australia. In The Strand, Bath Festival (0225 63362) has Baroque Dance at the Theatre Royal and Linea, a modern group from Italy, at the Bristol Amolfini, both Thurs and Fri.

WALKS

INSIDE DICKENS'S LONDON: Grays Inn to Dickens's house. Meet Holborn tube 2pm today, £2.25.

LONDON'S GHOSTS, ALLEYS AND ODDITIES: meet Embankment tube 11am today, £2.

CHAUCER'S HIDDEN ALLEYS BEHIND THE OLD GATE: meet Aldgate tube 11am today, £3.

GREENWICH RIVERSIDE AND GEORGIAN GREENWICH: meet Tourist Information Centre at Cutty Sark Gardens, noon, 1.30pm or 3.30pm today.

100 YEARS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: meet Baker Street tube, 2pm tomorrow, £2.25.

SHAKESPEARE GALA CONCERT: Edward Downes conducts BBC Philharmonic in works inspired by the playwright, including Maxwell Davies's *Foot's Fanfare*, Britten's *Full Fathom Five*, Elgar's *Faithful and Walton's Merry V Suite*. In aid of Shakespeare Galas Trust. July 10. Advance postal booking open. South Bank Concert Halls, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

LAST CHANCE

AD 87: Anthony Dawson's artists' exhibition, with more than 60 prints, paintings, collages, woven hangings and sculpture by 50 contemporary British and international artists, including Adair, Carroll, Coulter, Endo and Kaufman. Ends today. Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

BUXTON FESTIVAL: On a Spanish theme, with new productions of Rossini's *L'Occasion fa il Ladro*, Donizetti's *Il Pigmaleone*, and Cori's *Don Quixote* in Sierra Morena, July 18-Aug 8. Festival office, 1 Crescent View, Hall Bank, Buxton SK17 6EN.

SADLER'S WELLS AT LEEDS CASTLE: Swan Lake, Coppelia, and Frederick Ashton's *La Fille Mal Gardée* in the Big Top. Sept 8-26. Details: Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066); Box Office, Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent ME17 1PL. Advance booking from July 6 (0822 35203/4).

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1 Pennington Street, London E1 9DD Telephone: 01-481 4100

A WEEK IN POLITICS

At the end of its first week, a consensus of received wisdom has been arrived at about this election campaign. That consensus is broadly as follows: Labour is doing astonishingly well. Mr Kinnock has been superbly packaged for television. The Conservative campaign is something of a shambles. In so far as it is not a shambles, it has not yet really started.

While Mrs Thatcher was being held in reserve, Labour picked a fight with Mr Tebbit over something Mr Tebbit said, or did not say, in 1983 about unemployment. The confused contest seemed to end in a draw. But Labour was the tactical victor because it had managed to concentrate attention for two days on unemployment.

Then the Conservatives "smeared" the Alliance about being fellow-travellers. In the ensuing recriminations, Dr Owen's outrage secured for the Alliance a moral victory. But by yesterday Dr Owen had begun to distance himself from the Liberals about the wisdom of having no successor to Trident. So the Tories had managed to produce an Alliance split, which was their first good news of the campaign. Also, after two days on unemployment, where they are weak, the Tories had managed to escape into two days on defence, where they are strong. None the less, to an extent undreamt of a week ago, there is "all to play for".

The consensus has its strengths and weaknesses. Labour could be argued to be doing well. But in comparison with what? In comparison solely with the opinion polls at the moment last week when the election was called, which tended to have the Tories winning by around 140 seats — or roughly the same majority as they achieved with the aid of the "Falklands Factor" in 1983.

The last newspaper poll of this week — Marplan in yesterday's *Guardian* — had the Tories lead over Labour down by two points, with Labour up four and the Alliance down four. But that still produced a Conservative majority of 46. Through much of the post-Westland Tory revival, most students of politics have regarded Mrs Thatcher as being on course for that sort of win.

Such a majority would be a huge achievement for any party which had been in power for eight years under the same Prime Minister. (The three successive Tory victories of the 1950s were achieved under three successive leaders.) The triumph would have a special sweetness for Mrs Thatcher, since no Prime Minister this century has been the victim of such personal abuse and loathing from some of the most articulate and opinionated sections of society. Oxford's refusal of an honorary degree

to her was the shabby symbol of that ill-feeling. If she wins, enough of her countrymen would have shown that they are not content to be guided by one of their ancient universities.

If she now gets back with a majority which is big enough for another four or five years — but is only about 40 or 50 — the Thatcherites would not have realised their dream of "destroying" the Labour Party as an electoral force, whereas they might well do so if she gets back with a majority similar to that of 1983. Labour would live to fight again. Mr Kinnock will pass off the result as a triumph.

One more heave, he will say, and Labour will have the Tories out. But after a few months, he will be worn down by a heave lasting four or five years, with success uncertain. Mr Livingstone, newly elected for Brent East, will be intriguing against him with all the other true believers who expect to steal into the coming Parliament under cover of Mr Kinnock's moderation. Mrs Thatcher will still be enjoying office. Some triumph for Mr Kinnock!

No one should allow themselves to be carried away with Labour's performance in this first week. And Mr Kinnock has not so far been set down in the heat of the battle. He has confined himself largely to friendly rallies and relatively friendly babies. Difficult questions at the party's daily press conferences have been dealt with by better-informed figures such as Mr Bryan Gould. Mr Kinnock cannot keep this up throughout the entire campaign. He is bound to be smoked out.

In contrast, at the first Tory press conference yesterday, the Prime Minister dealt with questions for an hour from an audience which included some of her most unrelenting persecutors. The battle between her and Mr Kinnock has not yet been joined. He may begin to do less astonishingly well once it has.

And the "smeared" Mr Tebbit's remarks of 1983 did not bear the construction put on them in Labour's poster. Mr Tebbit was talking about the electorate's reaction to three million unemployed, not his own. And the Alliance's defence policy does not bear the construction put on it in the Conservative manifesto.

Who knows who has suffered by any of it? In elections, there is often as much advantage to be gained from claiming to be smeared as from smearing. Dr Owen certainly helped invent the smear of which he complained. So far in this campaign all smears, and complaints about smears, have been sufficiently complicated and inconsequential for all sides justifiably to claim victory. Finally, and happily, this week has given the lie to what was the consensus of last week, which was that this was going to be an uneventful election.

TUNNEL AHEAD

Each bank holiday weekend, the British traveller knows what to expect. The intricate network of airline routes and ships built up to bridge the gap between Great Britain and the rest of the world will somehow be disrupted. Some group of workers may seek to exploit peak public travel days by pressing home a local labour dispute through a strike or go-slow. Otherwise, the traveller can rely on what is none the less called freak weather.

There are many advantages to being a proud island race. Ease of travel, trade and communication with our European neighbours is not one. Despite that famous insular headline, it is usually Britain rather than the continent which is cut off.

This weekend's travellers may be lucky. It is nevertheless unlikely that the weekend will pass without many thousands dreaming in frustration of a permanent, strike-free weather-proof link to the continent.

Three months ago, that dream seemed to be fading. The agreement between British and French governments to license a privately funded tunnel was never a guarantee that the latest attempt to span the Channel would be any more successful than its predecessors. The board of the British end of the Eurotunnel consortium was falling apart. And after a near miss on the previous modest fund-raising exercise in the City, it was clear that the vital £750 million risk capital scheduled to be raised in July, was most unlikely to be forthcoming. Today, there is much more confidence that the dream will be turned into reality.

The new British co-chairman, Mr Alastair Morton, has acted with characteristic crispness. The main capital-raising was put off until the autumn. Earlier this month, Eurotunnel finally reached agreement with British Rail and the French state railways. The two railway networks will be entitled to 30 per cent of the

tunnel's capacity for their through trains and will in turn guarantee monthly payments based on forecast traffic. This is a strong vote of confidence in the project.

That deal was immediately followed by a long-term loan agreement with the European Investment Bank to provide £1 billion for the project. This should greatly encourage Japanese and other commercial bankers. They will eventually be asked for up to £4 billion if loan agreements are signed in July, when Eurotunnel will be able to ask its existing shareholders for a further £75 million with much more confidence. On Monday another potential obstacle was removed. The House of Lords Select Committee on the long-running Channel Tunnel Bill delivered a generally favourable report on many controversial details of the scheme — requiring no further rethink or delay.

Finance and legislation would be only the preliminary step in the most ambitious private sector civil engineering project of modern times. Moreover, success will depend on many other groups taking advantage of the potential it will bring. The Lords committee, for instance, said it was convinced the tunnel offers "immense opportunities for the generation of industrial and commercial development throughout the whole of the United Kingdom". This depends on British Rail seizing the opportunity to finance and build high class links from provincial centres to the continent and on cooperation from local authorities.

The lesson of the past year, as so often in Britain, is that exciting opportunities must be seized, not treated halfheartedly, once controversial decisions have been taken. If that is done, the tunnel will rapidly cease to be a joke and become a great national asset in the coming decade.

FOURTH LEADER

Miss Zandra Rhodes recently had something to say about the Queen. Her Majesty, said Miss Rhodes, "doesn't dress up enough". The solution? "She should be seen in her crown at all times, whatever she's doing."

Well, let's think about it. Opening Parliament, attending the weddings of her children, the Jubilee — that just about exhausts the list of occasions in which the Queen wears the crown. It could be extended a little by adding the reception of other Heads of State and official meetings with her Prime Ministers; also, perhaps, when opening the Commonwealth Conference.

As a scrupulously constitutional monarch Her Majesty would, if advised by her Ministers, extend the list still further. But advice to her to be "seen in her crown at all times, whatever she's doing" might provoke some right royal ructions.

At the theatre, for instance. Ladies in hats at matinees sometimes cause a good deal of annoyance for those sitting immediately behind them: what loyal subject would be behind them to lean forward and ask Her Majesty, with humble duty, to take her crown off? And what about horse racing? We have all been touched by the happy sight of the Queen, consumed with excitement at a close finish, leaping up like any other race-goer; but the other race-goers are not obliged to do their leaping up with a crown on their heads.

Then again, Her Majesty is extremely

assiduous in all her public duties; many of these actions — take laying foundation stones or planting commemorative trees — require her to bend down to the task. Years of practice have enabled her to do it gracefully; but to stoop with a heavy crown on her head would be asking too much even of her, particularly if it fell off her head and landed on the Mayor's foot.

The Queen is also anxious, whenever possible, to mingle with her subjects; everyone rejoices in her informal "walkabouts". But the degree of informality would be sharply reduced if she walked about with a crown on. She is very good, too, with children, adept at putting them at their ease; but even she would be hard put to it to achieve her usual rapport with a child transfixed at the sight of a stranger, however kind, balancing an enormous quantity of gold and jewels on her head. As for shooting parties, the Queen in her headscarf is a familiar and well-loved sight; somehow, it wouldn't be quite the same in a crown.

On the whole, it would be perhaps better to classify Miss Rhodes' suggestion as well-meant, and leave it as a suggestion only. The only obvious alternative is for Miss Rhodes to design a wide range of informal crowns for Her Majesty. But even a constitutional monarch has a breaking point; Miss Rhodes would no doubt welcome a Royal Warrant, but not if it was a Royal Warrant for her arrest.

Government defence of the NHS

From the Secretary of State for Social Services
Sir, Doctors, like everyone else, are entitled to their political views. However, the letter you published by Mr Iain Hutchinson and his colleagues (May 22) is by any measure a totally distorted picture both of the health service and of the Government's policy.

It is impossible to take seriously allegations like "the Conservatives have asset-stripped the NHS by subterfuge" or that "they believe in privatisation of health care following the American model".

There are, of course, more specific charges are equally bogus. For example, Mr Hutchinson and his colleagues claim that there is no real financial commitment to building modern hospitals with up-to-date equipment. The fact is that following the 30 per cent cut in the hospital building programme by the last Labour Government, this Government has restored that programme. Since 1979, we have started and completed more than 200 major hospital building projects and provided in England alone 151 new X-ray rooms, 189 new operating theatres, and 27 accident and emergency departments. In addition, we are carrying through a

record £3 billion hospital building programme.

As far as the other charges are concerned, we are not spending less than inflation: we have increased spending by 31 per cent more than inflation since we came to office. Waiting lists have not increased — they are down by 60,000 and I have just introduced a new measure to take a further 100,000 people from the waiting list.

Nurses' salaries are up by 30 per cent on top of inflation to their highest level ever, compared with a fall under the last Labour Government.

By any objective measure, the NHS is providing record patient care and introducing new services like the National Breast Screening Programme. It is a pity that the NHS should be so falsely denigrated by a group claiming to be custodians of health care. As far as the Government is concerned, we remain committed to the health service, and to more and better patient care.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN FOWLER,
Sutton Coldfield Conservative Association,
36 High Street,
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.
May 22.

Church sculpture

From the Chairman of English Heritage
Sir, Sir John Gielgud has asked (May 18) what "lunatic authority" can have given consent for the "ridiculous Pantomime Dragon" now inhabiting the portico of St Martin-in-the-Fields.

The answer to that question can only be given by the ecclesiastical authority concerned. Their answer is necessary since even after the removal of this foolish and disfiguring device the building will be permanently marked by some 16 steel bolts and other fixings drilled into the stonework of one of London's most beautiful churches.

English Heritage has no power to prevent such gratuitous damage because St Martin's is an ecclesiastical building in ecclesiastical use and so exempt from listed building control. It is sad that the ecclesiastical exemption should have led to the disfigurement of a major church.

Yours faithfully,
MONTAGU DE BEAULIEU,
Chairman,
English Heritage,
Historic Buildings & Monuments Commission for England,
Fortress House,
23 Savile Row, W1.
May 20.

From Mr James Lingwood
Sir, A matter of fact: the photograph of Edward Allington's sculpture at St Martin-in-the-Fields (May 18) depicts part of a national project called TSWA 3D organised by TSW — Television South

Lighting up London

From Miss Daphne Fraser
Sir, Not only the Messiah but the Book of Common Prayer can supply a moral justification for electrical as well as spiritual crises (letter, May 15). Some ten years ago, as Sunday morning service was beginning in St Peter-ad-Vincula at the Tower, the light and power supply to the organ failed us.

This was on the second Sunday in Lent, whose collect begins (of course) "Almighty God, who seest that we have no power..." whereafter the power was restored. Amen.
Yours faithfully,
DAPHNE FRASER,
Mill Cottage,
22 Old Mill Lane,
Wanlock,
Polegate, East Sussex.

Vaccines and Aids

From Dr Paul Nunn and Professor Arie Zuckerman
Sir, Your correspondents speculate in reports on May 11, 12 and 13 that activation of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infection by smallpox vaccination was the cause of the Aids epidemic, although they fail to distinguish clearly between activation and transmission of the virus. We do not believe that the facts support their arguments for the following reasons.

In Africa both symptomless HIV infection and Aids itself are found almost exclusively in very young children and sexually active adults. Very few babies will have received smallpox vaccination since it has been gradually phased out following the last case of "wild" smallpox in 1977. Many cases of Aids in this country, and probably elsewhere, have never been vaccinated against smallpox. Smallpox vaccination is not therefore a necessary condition either for activation of HIV or for the development of Aids.

Although current theory suggests HIV infection can be activated by naturally occurring infections or, conceivably, live vaccines, no specific infection or vaccination has been consistently associated with the development of Aids. You quote the case of the 19-year-old US military recruit, at risk from Aids through heterosexual contact, with prostitutes, who developed the disease following his first smallpox vaccination (and eight other immunisations).

He cannot have been the first recruit so vaccinated since three HIV positives were found in every 2,000 applicants when HIV testing was introduced for the first time for 308,076 applicants between October, 1985 and March, 1986. There are, to our knowledge, no

West — and South West Arts and coordinated in London by the Institute of Contemporary Arts. You suggested (later editions) that it is intended to shock traditionalists: in fact it is to provoke thought.

A matter of opinion: the baroque of St Martin's depends on an architectural balance of reason and emotion. Edward Allington's sculpture seeks to reflect with intelligence and wit upon this balance. It is to be regretted that Sir John Gielgud, referring in his letter of May 18 to "the ridiculous Pantomime Dragon", did not.

In general the response to TSWA 3D has been enthusiastic with Marina Vaizey, visual arts critic of *The Sunday Times*, describing it as "one of the most imaginative and surprising schemes to be thought up anywhere". For the less enthusiastic and Sir John, undue worry might be allayed by the news that TSWA 3D is a temporary event and the sculpture will be leaving in the middle of June.
Yours faithfully,
JAMES LINGWOOD
(TSWA 3D Co-ordinator),
88 Northchurch Road, N1.

Academic status

From Dr R. J. Cremllyn
Sir, Dr John Rae, in his excellent article entitled "Shooting the piano tuner" (May 8) said that "the proportion of working class children entering university is the same now as in the 30s and equality of opportunity in Britain remains a mirage".

This judgement ignores the fact that today approximately 50 per cent of all full-time students are reading for Council of National Academic Awards degrees in polytechnics and other colleges. CNA degrees are acknowledged to be academically equivalent to university degrees and their students are on similar LEA grants. It is vital that they are not ignored.

Yours etc,
RICHARD CREMLYN,
62 Roxwell Avenue,
Chelmsford, Essex.

CND 'smear' claim

From Mr Piers Woolley
Sir, I would like to correct Sir Peter Blaker ("Tory anger at claims of CND 'smear'", May 18), who said that I "... had never been a Conservative..." That is untrue — I was a member of the Tory Reform Group.

reports of Aids subsequently developing in those who were vaccinated.

Aids is currently spreading fast through Africa at a time when smallpox vaccination has ceased entirely. For the smallpox hypothesis to hold, vaccination many years before HIV infection would have to be able to lead to the onset of Aids. This seems extremely unlikely since no viable vaccinia virus would remain in the body by that time.

If you are also saying that smallpox vaccination brought about a change in HIV itself at some time in the past that then enabled it to spread, it is incumbent upon you to provide a hypothesis for how this may have occurred. HIV is a completely different virus from vaccinia and, to our knowledge, contains none of that virus's genetic material or proteins.

In conclusion, smallpox vaccination as a "trigger" for the development of Aids in a previously HIV-infected individual is a hypothesis easily testable by examining the frequency of smallpox vaccination among Aids patients and comparing that to the frequency among symptomless HIV carriers.

The suggestion that smallpox vaccination has changed the Aids virus demands substantiation. Either way speculation about a connection between smallpox vaccination and Aids is bound to cause concern about the safety of the current immunisation programmes which are already saving millions of lives every year.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL NUNN,
ARIE ZUCKERMAN,
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,
University of London,
Keppel Street, WC1.
May 15.

Safety first on ferry routes

From the Chairman of Sealink British Ferries
Sir, I am becoming concerned about newspaper reports in connection with the Zebrugga ferry disaster inquiry. There seems to be a concerted attempt under way to blame the design of the ship for the accident when the cause, in our view, was the unsatisfactory seamanship of the ship's senior deck officers. Failing to verify that the ship's bow doors were closed is as serious as the pilot and co-pilot of an aircraft failing to verify that they had fuel on board before taking off.

The suggestion that ferries should have lights on the bridge to show whether the doors are open or closed is a "red herring". Sealink British Ferries ships have always required a deck officer to be present on the car deck to supervise door closure, then to proceed to the bridge to report to the captain or to radio or telephone through the information. Bridge lights can malfunction.

We intend to follow our door-closure procedures as before, lights or not. Our ships do not even single up (hold the vessel by a single line before casting off) their lines ashore until the captain has been informed of door closure.

Any suggestion that the design of the ships is at fault or that the Department of Transport or ferry operators have refused to correct design deficiencies is equally nonsense. All passenger ferries of all the EEC flags incorporate multiple compartmentation which will allow the ships to remain afloat except in the most extreme collision or stranding situations.

Freight-only roll-on, roll-off ships do not have this number of compartments and to cite capsize of such vessels as proof of the need to redesign passenger ferries is absurd. There is no incident on record of loss of life arising from the capsize of an EEC-registered passenger car ferry due to car-deck flooding; certainly there never has occurred before now the capsize of a passenger ferry due to sailing into the open seas with doors open.

In praise of aunts

From Mrs G. M. Bryer
Sir, In her impressive list of aunts in today's *Times* (May 18) Mrs Wood makes one mistake. The house in which Kipling spent "close on six years" of misery in Southsea "belonged to a woman who took in children whose parents were in India". She was, in fact, no relation.

His real aunt — "the Beloved Aunt" — who also lived in Southsea, was his mother's sister, Aunt Georgy, wife of Sir Edward Burne-Jones, RA, whose house The Grange, North End Road, he described as "a veritable Paradise".

The story of those childhood years of misery can be found not only in *Wee Willie Winkie* but also in Kipling's autobiography *Something of Myself*.

Aunt Georgy was a real aunt, "Aunt" Rosie (in *Wee Willie Winkie*) was not.
Yours faithfully,
JOAN BRYER,
Little Applemore, Pilley Bailey, Lymington, Hampshire.
May 18.

As is apparent from official sources, every aspect of the 1982-83 campaign to counter CND, as reported in *The Observer*, May 17, has been confirmed by others who were involved.

The whole affair does little credit to those in positions of power who believe that the democratic process can be twisted by using methods foreign to Britain. Moreover, the use of Civil Servants for party political activities is clearly contrary to accepted convention. MI5's involvement is a contravention of their charter.

The decision to disclose these events, and the manner in which I did so, was a painful one. Unfortunately, as has been highlighted by Ms Cathy Massiter, Mr Clive Pounting and Miss Sarah Tisdall, there is no effective body to which Civil Servants and others in Westminster such as myself can go when confronted by a matter of great importance and conscience.
Yours faithfully,
PIERS WOOLLEY,
7 The Crescent,
Canterbury, Kent.
May 20.

Stones of scone

From Mr E. J. Dilley
Sir, As joint proprietor of the tea place singled out by the Egon Ronay Organisation, in their latest *Just a Bite* guide, for not serving hard or resilient scones, I must object in the strongest possible terms to your gratuitous leading article (May 16) which will only encourage a resurgence of nurling.

Our courtyard will now be littered with fragments of broken scone (skards) resulting from our delicious but totally unsuitable comestibles being hurled at the back of our walled garden with many an unseemly "Yarricks!" from customers who have secreted them for the purpose.

Furthermore, it will almost certainly result in an undesirable upsurge in the local population of scavenging scone-curveds.
Yours in annoyance,
E. J. DILLEY,
Church House,
Lyonshall,
Near Kingston, Herefordshire.
May 17.

I believe a contributory factor to the Zebrugga disaster may be that officers and ratings have different duty rotation on a vessel. We at Sealink British Ferries are trying to stop this practice. If the same officers and ratings always work together as a crew we think discipline will improve and the possibility of misunderstanding over work procedures will be reduced.
Yours faithfully,
JAMES B. SHERWOOD,
Chairman,
Sealink British Ferries,
Sea Containers House,
20 Upper Ground, SE1.
May 20.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 23 1905

Sir Henry Irving (1838-1905) was playing in his last season, for within five months he was dead. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. Like his Hamlet (On This Day, December 6, 1885), his interpretation of Shylock aroused controversy, but he himself was in no doubt "in all humility... mine is the only great Shylock".

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE"

Shylock: SIR HENRY IRVING
Balthazar: MR. GERALD LAWRENCE
Date of Venice: MR. MARK PATON
Antonio: MR. JAMES HEARN
Prince of Morocco: MR. FRANK TYARS
Gratiano: MR. H. B. STANFORD
Locust: MR. VINCENT STERNBOYD
Tubal: MR. J. ARCHER
Launcelot Gobbo: MR. C. BOOSWORTH
Old Gobbo: MR. T. REYNOLDS
Isabella: MR. CYRIL WILSON
Nurse: MISS CYRIL RICHARDS
Porch: MISS EDITH WYNNE MATTHEWS

Shylock has always been one of the very best things in Sir Henry Irving's Shakespearean repertoire. The flamboyant element in his art, his quasi-Oriental love of vivid colour in life, his native dignity, his firm grasp of the grotesque at the point where the grotesque turns to the grim — all these his most conspicuous qualities find ample employment in the character. Precisely how much of this picturesque conception existed in Shakespeare's figure is a question with which the wise have long since ceased to trouble themselves. They are content to believe that in all probability Irving's Shylock is just what Shakespeare's Shylock would have been had Shakespeare had the advantage of revising Elizabethan notions about the Jew in the light of 19th century experience. It is the proper Shylock, at any rate, for a generation that has lived under the Government of a Diamond and knows all about Sidiya. Yet the earlier notion that Shylock was a comic personage died hard. Traces of it were apparent last night in the uncontrollable hilarity of the pit when Shylock spoke to Tubal of a wilderness of monkeys or produced his scales to weigh Antonio's pound of flesh. Certainly it is a curious fact — which we leave to the psychologists to explain — that whenever there is a blend of the grim and the grotesque on the stage it is mainly the grotesque ingredient that is perceived by the so-called "popular" part of the audience. Evidently Shakespeare knew what he was about when he jotted down those grating interruptions in court for Gratiano. Gratiano serves as the mouthpiece in whom the sense of pity is swallowed up in the sense of fun. The rest of us would stop our ears when Gratiano opens his mouth, and feel disposed to groan with anguish when Shakespeare makes that horrible blunder of condemning Shylock to become a Christian. One would as soon expect Diogenes to have condemned Sidiya to become Mr. Taper or Mr. Tadpole. But we must not be tempted into reopening a subject that ever since Henry Irving took the part of Shylock for his own has been chose jugue. Our proper business is to record the simple, and comfortable, fact that Sir Henry's Shylock remains in every respect the fine performance that it was from the first — fine in the concentrated, virile malignity of the bargaining with Antonio, in the helpless, bewildered shipwreck of the man after Jessica's elopement, and in the still, deadly purpose of the sufferer claiming the fulfilment of the bond in the trial scene. Shylock's final exit, struggling his shoulders at Gratiano's taunts, bracing himself up against the yelling triumphant crowd, then tottering, almost falling, publicly groping his way to the door, has always been a memorable thing. In years to come, when Irving has left the stage, we shall think of it, and tell our children of it, and poor-poor younger actors by the standard of it. Last night, as on every night that we have witnessed it, it seemed to us the house to silence — silence which, of course, a moment later changed to a wild roar of cheering. It is good to hear the applause at Drury Lane just now. It has the genuine ring. It is a tribute not merely to what is passing on the stage at the moment, but to what the actor has done in the whole course of a career now drawing to a close. There is gratitude in it, and pride — feelings more honourable and more stable than mere aesthetic gratification.

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1686.7 (+9.0)

FT-SE 100
2167.5 (+13.6)

Bargains
437.40 (50.412)

USM (Datastream)
179.72 (-0.04)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6705 (-0.0100)

W German mark
2.9718 (-0.0119)

Trade-weighted
79.3 (-0.4)

Saunders
plans his
strategy

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of Guinness, was last night locked in a conference with his legal advisers called to decide the strategy he should adopt at next week's annual meeting of Guinness.

The conference, at his solicitor's office in New Square, central London, started at noon and continued into the evening. Mr Saunders was being advised by Mr Stephen Ralph, his solicitor, and Mr Philip Heslop QC, his barrister.

A vote to remove him as a director of Guinness will be put to the shareholders next Wednesday. Mr Saunders is intending to make representations to the shareholders, claiming among other things, that inadequate reasons have been given for his sacking in January.

Cocoa slumps

The London cocoa market, on the last day of trading at its old address, yesterday gave its most bullish performance for four years, with July delivery prices slumping to £1,240 a tonne. This was due to the International Cocoa Organization's failure to buy more cocoa for buffer stocks.

Evered sells

Evered has sold 41 per cent of the Tace shares it acquired through the London & Northern takeover, raising £8.12 million. It is left with a 6.6 per cent stake.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2241.58 (+15.81)
Dow Jones	2241.58 (+15.81)
Tokyo	24156.71 (+402.70)
Hong Kong	2897.62 (+26.71)
Amsterdam Gen	286.6 (-0.3)
Sydney AO	1026.1 (-19.3)
Frankfurt	1730.5 (+0.3)
Brussels	4505.0 (+29.7)
Paris CAC	4221 (+0.4)
Zurich S&K Gen	516.60 (-1.4)
London FT. A	1686.7 (+9.0)
FT. B	92.07 (-0.21)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Allied-Lyons	434p (+13p)
BP	354p (+13p)
Beecham	515p (+10p)
Kellogg Industries	515p (+10p)
Avon Rubber	664p (+21p)
Husnet	420p (+15p)
Plessey	451p (+11p)
Plasmanet	327p (+10p)
Hitachi	535p (+12p)
Moss Bros	79p (+20p)
Fluoro	1145p (+13p)
Britannic Assur	1047p (+24p)
Hogg Robinson	451p (+20p)
Asda Property	338p (+25p)
Regentcrest	123p (+12p)

FALLS:	
Underwoods	185p (-12p)
CE Health	487p (-11p)
SW Wood	90p (-10p)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	9%
3-month Interbank:	8.4-8.5%
3-month eligible bills:	8.4-8.5%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate:	8.1%
Federal Funds:	5.1-5.2%
3-month Treasury Bills:	5.58-5.59%
30-year bonds:	9.7-9.8%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£1.6705	\$1.6735
DM2.9718	DM1.7785
SwF2.4389	SwF1.4615
FFFr5.3311	FFFr5.3311
Yen134.87	Yen140.55
Index: 73.3	Index: 100.3
ECU 20.68576	SDR 10.778124

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$473.80 pm \$466.50	
close \$465.00-465.50 (\$278.25-278.75)	
New York:	
Comex \$463.30-463.90	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (July) pm \$18.55 (\$18.42)	
* Denotes latest trading price	

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PCW rescue
faces setback

Liabilities may be
£40 million higher

By John Bell, City Editor

Lloyd's of London faces a fresh setback in its £135 million plan for a final settlement of the PCW scandal, which Mr Peter Miller, the chairman, has described as the most shameful episode in the insurance market's history. It emerged yesterday that the liabilities of the stricken PCW syndicates may prove to be up to £40 million higher than estimated when the settlement proposals were published last month.

The proposals were calculated on the basis that the PCW syndicates had estimated gross liabilities of £680 million, partially offset by assets of £445 million, including an undisclosed sum in respect of recoveries due under reinsurance arrangements. It now appears that there may be problems with the reinsurance, a good deal of which was placed with the corporate market outside Lloyd's.

No details were forthcoming from Lloyd's itself yesterday, but it is understood that there may be a "hole" in the expected reinsurance recoveries of as much as £40 million. It is too early to say by how much the reinsurance problem might affect the size of the £135 million sum needed to fund the gap between the gross assets and liabilities of the PCW syndicates. But any prospect of bigger liabilities will increase the likelihood of the 90 per cent acceptance level which Lloyd's requires before proceeding with the rescue proposals.

The proposals represent a concerted effort by Lloyd's to find a final solution to the PCW affair which surfaced after Mr Peter Dixon and Mr Peter Cameron-Webb, who

founded the syndicates, misappropriated £40 million of names' cash over a period of years. The terms require the names to provide £35 million towards the settlement. Third parties such as Minet, Alexander & Alexander and former auditors to PCW syndicates, who are all potential defendants of legal claims in the PCW affair have agreed to provide £55 million. The balance is being offered by Lloyd's itself from its central fund.

The potential reinsurance shortfall surfaced in a letter to members from Mr Miller. It detailed the response of the council to requests from names for more time to consider the proposals and a reduction in the £35 million they are being asked to provide towards the settlement. The council agreed to an extension of the May 30 deadline for acceptances by three working weeks until June 19. But it refused to vary the terms.

The request for a reduced



Peter Miller: letter to members reveals shortfall

contribution stemmed from an improvement in the dollar exchange rate over the past few months which some names suggested would reduce the dollar denominated liabilities by up to £18 million. Mr Miller's letter said that the exchange rate was one small part of the calculations on which the offer was based and was debated with AUA3, the body set up to represent PCW names.

"It would not be reasonable or prudent for the Council of Lloyd's to look merely at one part of an extremely complex package any more than they would have proposed to change its terms adversely if exchange rates had moved in the opposite direction," said Mr Miller.

Referring to the expected reinsurance recoveries, he said that in the last few months questions had been raised about the extent to which there would be full recovery. "Any shortfall here could significantly outweigh possible savings from what might well be a short term movement in the dollar/sterling exchange rate," he added.

The payment by members was not out of line with other market results in non-PCW syndicates. "The proposals provide that the immediate benefit of more than £100 million to be contributed by other parties to the resolution of the problems of the syndicates. They offer the only path of finality for the members. For all these reasons, the council would not think it right or reasonable to alter the proposals already put forward and trusts that the members who have not already accepted the offer would now do so," said Mr Miller.

Comment, page 27

Riley split
on £16.4m
acceptance

By Our City Staff

There was a boardroom split at Riley Leisure, the snooker club chain, yesterday over its decision to accept a higher £16.4 million bid from Midsummer Leisure, the discos to pubs group.

Midsummer raised the value of its cash alternative from 75p to 82p a share but Mr Bill Abbey, Riley's non-executive director, refused to go along with the board.

He later said: "I am far from convinced that it is the best offer. Once a bid has got the recommendation of a board, it is bound to put off anyone else thinking of making an offer."

Mr Abbey, also deputy managing director of the William Hill Organisation and a Riley board member for 14 years, said he felt some of his colleagues had been "pressured" into giving their backing to the revised offer.

He intends writing to Riley shareholders to give his reasons for opposing the bid.

Mr Alan Deal, Riley's chairman, said: "We didn't want a bid in the first place but we had to consider the offer in the light of the past performance and the current expectations for the shares. Maybe someone else will come along."

Riley's backing caught the stock market on the hop and the shares tumbled from 106p to 95p.

Midsummer's share swap terms are the same at three for every 13 Riley shares.

US inflation at
three-year high

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Growth in the US economy was revised upward in the first quarter, according to new figures released in Washington yesterday. But the figures also showed inflation running at its highest level for three years.

Revised figures for gross national product in the first quarter showed an annualized rise of 4.4 per cent, compared with an initial estimate of 4.3 per cent.

In the fourth quarter of last year, growth in the economy was just 1.1 per cent.

But there was a sharper upward revision in the estimated rise in the price deflator, from 3.5 per cent to 4.2 per cent, its strongest rise since the first quarter of 1984.

Economists fear that the weakness of the dollar, coupled with a rise in the dollar price of commodities, will push US inflation still higher in the coming months.

The figures offer little evi-

dence of the US trade deficit being corrected. Exports rose by \$4.6 billion (£2.7 billion) in the first quarter, after a \$14.6 billion rise in the fourth quarter of last year.

Imports fell by \$6.2 billion, after falling by \$0.7 billion in the final quarter of 1986. The contribution of net exports to growth thus fell from \$15.3 billion to \$10.8 billion between the quarters.

Figures released for durable goods orders yesterday showed a rise of just 0.1 per cent last month, following a 4.1 per cent increase in March.

The figures left Wall Street analysts uncertain about whether the Federal Reserve Board will raise the discount rate, currently 5.5 per cent. Although there is inflationary pressure in the US economy, it is accompanied by signs of economic weakness, which would normally restrain the Fed from raising rates.

Olives board wins

Olives Paper Mill, the independent paper company, yesterday disclosed that it had defeated an attempt by its largest shareholder to block a number of resolutions proposed at the company's recent annual meeting.

Melton Medes, who owns 18 per cent of Olives, had called for a poll on resolutions

to receive the company's report and accounts, and to reappoint two directors to the board, besides other technical issues.

The poll result showed that the Olives board had secured the requisite majority on all the resolutions. The company had a near 60/40 majority on each resolution.

Market greets unitized buildings with interest

Property schemes in the PINC

By Alexandra Jackson

Pundits are speculating on the prospects for the unitized property market now that the Stock Exchange has given the go-ahead for trading in a range of property investment vehicles based on single buildings or developments.

Is there a genuine market for such instruments or have they been spawned by industry lobbyists keen to stimulate activity in the sector?

The three schemes - Single Asset Property Companies (SAPCOs), Single Property Ownership Trusts (SPOTs) and Property Income Certificates (PINC)s - are to be launched over the next 18 months to enable investors to participate in the fortunes of an individual building without incurring the risk and expense of being the sole developer.

The properties most likely to be unitized are prime office properties, large retail developments and business parks.

Such are recent developments in the sector, particularly in the Big Bang-oriented office market, that smaller investment institutions have not been able to afford to invest directly in property. This segment of the market has thus been left exclusively to a handful of larger institutions.

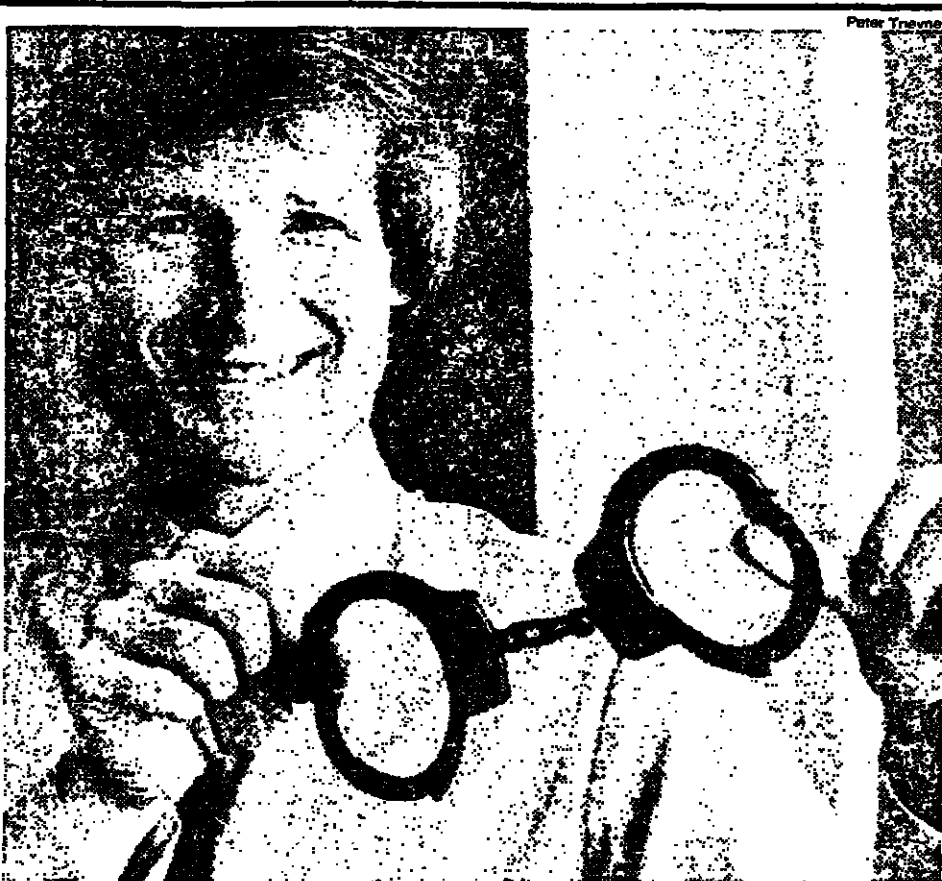
This has not caused undue concern until a little while ago, since the property market has itself been out of favour. With recently rising rents, however, the sector has come back into favour and smaller institutions have been keen to increase their exposure to the market. Any new way of participating in the market is greeted with interest since tax constraints prevent many institutions from investing freely in property unit trusts and pure property companies.

Mr Robert Ringrose, property analyst at Phillips & Drew, the broker, is enthusiastic about prospects for unitized properties. He believes they provide the

ideal instrument for direct investment for a wide range of institutional investors. Importantly, he points out, the market in unitized properties should be liquid.

Mr Naresh Gudka, of Scrimgeour Vickers, the broker, is anxious that the properties chosen should be wholly suitable for unitization, although he also supports the overall concept of unitized properties. He is aware of between five and 10 properties under consideration for unitization by the PINCs Association and the Barkshire Committee (promoting SAPCOs and SPOTs) but is keen that the release of unitized properties should be carefully controlled lest the market be flooded.

Critics of property unitization believe it is artificially stimulating a property market. Indeed, some say it no longer needs stimulation as it is already looking stronger on fundamentals.



Magnum force: chief executive Greg Hutchings yesterday after the deal that made his day

Tomkins pays £67m to take
Smith & Wesson in custody

By Cliff Feltham

TH Tomkins, the fast-moving industrial conglomerate led by Mr Greg Hutchings, has snapped the handcuffs on one of the world's best-known handgun manufacturers, Smith & Wesson.

He collared the firm, whose guns helped tame the Wild West, for £67 million after a shoot-out with other potential bidders. He admitted the deal had made his day.

"It is a perfect deal. We can do a lot with it. We are getting a brand name everyone knows," Mr Hutchings, the company's chief executive, said yesterday.

Smith & Wesson was

founded in 1852 when its best customers were lawmen and outlaws. Now it claims to have 30 per cent of the market in the US but the bulk of the revolvers and semi-automatics made at its 135-acre site at Springfield, Massachusetts, are sold purely for leisure and sporting purposes.

However, there is still a booming business with police and law enforcement authorities in the US and overseas. These include the FBI, 44 of the 50 US police agencies and police forces around the world. In addition, Smith & Wesson produces and sells handcuffs and owns the Identikit facial image system

which it licenses throughout the world.

Profits before tax have been on a plateau for the last three years and in 1986 totalled just above £3.4 million on turnover of £69 million.

Mr Hutchings said: "We have been keen to expand into the US for some time and started looking at the business earlier in the year. Its stable earnings and cash flow should enable us to continue to develop in the US."

Tomkins is paying £23.1 million in cash and the balance through a placing of new shares at a price of 258p with a clawback arrangement for existing shareholders.

Thompson
buys stake
in Conrad

By Lawrence Lever

Mr David Thompson, who recently resigned as joint chairman of Hilldown Holdings, is paying £1.25 million for an 18 per cent stake in Conrad Holdings, the exhibition design and construction company.

The move is part of a capital reconstruction programme whereby Mr Thompson, who realized £144 million from the sale of half of his Hilldown shares, and Mr Roger Abraham, a managing director of Chase Investment Bank, will acquire between them a little more than 36 per cent of the company.

Conrad came to the market in August 1985 after a reverse takeover of the loss-making Russell Brothers (Paddington) by the privately-owned EGC construction group. Last year, it made pretax profits of £483,000.

Its shares were suspended at 102p yesterday at the company's request pending the announcement. At this level, the company has a market value of £5.9 million.

It is issuing 5 million shares to Mr Thompson and Mr Abraham at 50p each. It is also issuing a further 2.5 million shares by way of a deep-discounted one-for-two rights issue at 50p to existing shareholders.

The total package will increase the company's market capitalization by two-thirds.

But Mr Thompson's and Mr Abraham's involvement is conditional upon the Takeover Panel waiving the normal requirement for anyone acquiring 30 per cent of a company to make a full takeover offer.

Sunleigh attacks
Dale's forecast

By Michael Tate

Dale Electric, which is fighting a £17.9 million takeover bid from Sunleigh Electronics, made estimated profits of £1.07 million in the year to April 30, against a £960,000 loss in the previous year, Mr Dale, chairman, said yesterday.

Earnings are expected to be 5.1p a share, against a 10.5p loss last time.

The figures are contained in the defence document which went out to Dale shareholders last night. With the forecast of a dividend increase from 3p to 3.5p, they are regarded by the Dale board as an "impressive turnaround."

But they were greeted with

scorn by Mr Tony Merryweather, chairman of Sunleigh. He described them as a "barrel-scraping exercise," adding that he was "decidedly unimpressed." He also criticized the dividend increase. "It is irresponsible to leave earnings cover so short."

Mr Dale reported outstanding orders of £16 million, enough for 43 weeks' work, and added that the group had also put £500,000 of cost savings in hand.

Dale shares eased 1p to 121p after the profit statement. The Sunleigh offer, 133p in shares at last night's stock market levels or 110.5p in cash, expires next Friday.

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Name
Address

£14.9m buy puts Birmid into a brave New World

By Michael Tate

Birmid Quilcast, the lawn-mowers to foundries group, is acquiring TI Group's New World division, which makes more than a quarter of free-standing gas cookers bought in Britain.

Birmid has agreed to pay TI up to £14.9 million, depending on profits for the division, which includes TI Vitreous Enamel, maker of the special enamel which coats the insides of ovens.

New World will also repay TI loans totalling £3.2 million on completion. The price is being settled by the issue of 6.34 million new shares in Birmid, equal to 8.8 per cent of the enlarged capital. These have been conditionally placed with large investors but will be offered to shareholders at 21p each on a 10-for-104 basis.

New World, in Warrington, is the biggest name in gas cookers, with 27 per cent of



Christopher Lewinton: cash for international business

the market for free-standing models. It employs 1,300 people, has a turnover of about £44 million and made operating profits of £2.5 million last year.

TI said yesterday the sale represented "a further step in the disposal programme of

appliance businesses". It recently sold its Glow-worm and Parkray heating interests to Hepworth Ceramic for £63.5 million. The disposal would "release funds which can be directed towards the development of international engineering businesses," Mr Christopher Lewinton, the chief executive, said.

The deal takes Birmid further away from its metal-bashing origins. It has made no secret of its ambition to become a consumer products group and, after the acquisition, will derive two-thirds of its turnover and 80 per cent of its earnings from this area.

Birmid already owns the Pottery gas-heating business and last month paid £6.8 million for Gardex and Foldor, market leaders in shower trays and plastic bathroom products. It has also sold its British engineering and plastics activities and its

small, loss-making kitchen furniture business for a total of £4 million.

The company believes New World's innovative design capabilities provide scope for further expansion of its product range and this, coupled with new investment in modern manufacturing techniques and facilities, "is anticipated to enhance considerably its profitability".

Mr Alan Emson, Birmid's finance director, likened the acquisition to that of Pottery and said: "It is a good product, with a good brand name, that needs modest, but sensible, investment." He envisaged new products being produced at Warrington.

The immediate basic payment for New World is £13.4 million, with the balance dependent on the current year's operating profit. If New World tops £3 million, Birmid will pay a maximum of £1.5 million more.

Cannon Street in £7m deals

By Lawrence Lever

The share price of Cannon Street Investments, the expanding industrial holdings company, leapt 22p yesterday after it announced that it was making two acquisitions for at least £7.7 million.

The company is paying an initial consideration of £4.5 million for Olives Windows, a Midlands double glazing company with 11 showrooms. It made profits before tax of £940,000 in its most recent financial year and had net tangible assets of £1.3 million at end-December.

Cannon is also paying an initial £3.2 million for Photo Circuits, an intermediary between designers and manufacturers of printed-circuit boards. The purchase of Photo Circuits is conditional upon receipt of certain tax consents. In the year to January 31, its profits before tax were £633,000 and net tangible assets were £528,000.

Further payments may be made in both cases, depending on the profitability of the companies being purchased.

The acquisitions are being financed largely via a vendor placing of 2.5 million Cannon shares at 30p a share. Cannon's shares shot up to 38p - from 31p - on the news of the two deals. The company - one of the victims of the 1974 secondary banking crisis - was relaunching on the Unlisted Securities Market in May 1985 at 43p per share.

Mr Bill Hislop, Cannon's chairman, said yesterday: "The acquisitions further strengthen CSI's activities." The company's corporate strategy remained "to build up a well-balanced portfolio of operating groups in businesses which are service-oriented, cash-generating and with good growth prospects".

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

A week's hard Labour dampens the market

The City has not enjoyed Week One of the election campaign. The breakfast, lunch and supper diet of opinion-poll news, the sight of Neil Kinnock scoring early gains in the media battle and a gradual upward movement in Labour support has taken away much of the pre-campaign euphoria.

Yesterday's sudden fall for the pound, brought on by fears of what public opinion polls during the long weekend might bring, was symptomatic of nervousness just below the surface. The gilt market, having decided that it could live with day-to-day fluctuations in the public temperature, was taken by surprise by sterling's sudden lapse and ended about three-quarters of a point down on the day.

The pound, at one stage down by nearly 1½ cents in just a few minutes soon after the New York opening, ended a cent down at \$1.6705. It dropped 1.19 pence to DM2.9718 and the sterling index dropped 0.4 points to 73.3.

The pound has been looking far from buoyant for most of the past week and the restraining hand of the Bank of England has not been needed. The expected break above DM3 - and the poster that would have provided for the authorities - has not transpired.

The discount houses have all but given up their attempt to squeeze another half-point cut in base rates out of the Bank of England. The smart money is on the view that base rates will not come down before June 11 and there will be no great incentive to rush them down immediately afterwards.

For the City, elections are harder work than they used to be, beginning early in the morning with the daily Harris poll on TV-am. The message from this and other polls is that Labour has inched forward but that the Conservatives are still leading by some distance. What every amateur psephologist in the City knows is that governments tend to lose support during an election campaign and that a fall in the Tory vote to 40 per cent and a rise in Labour's support to 37 per cent could be enough to produce a hung Parliament.

Despite this week's jitters, the market is also aware that it would take an unprecedented swing against the Government for Labour to unseat it and rule in Mrs Thatcher's place. Furthermore, the Tory campaign has only just begun in earnest and Labour's advance in the public opinion polls is at the expense of the Alliance and has hardly touched the Conservative bedrock.

There will, of course, come a point when the market has to make up its mind. In equities, the thinking is, this weekend, oscillating between the damage the end of Thatcherism might do to prices after such a long bull run and whether prices would rise much further when Mrs Thatcher embarked on her

third term. This kind of thinking - plenty to lose but only a little to gain - will encourage selling, if the present trend in the polls continues.

Gilt, however, stand to make substantial gains, assuming the Conservatives are re-elected and equally sizeable losses on any other outcome. At the moment, the 27 market-makers are shadow-boxing, retail interest in the market having virtually disappeared. But, at some stage in the next three weeks, someone has to make a decisive move.

The Budget was the last big opportunity for market-makers to steal a march on the competition and the word is that Salomon Brothers managed to do so. The election is an even bigger game and the rewards proportionately larger.

Lloyd's stands firm on PCW terms

Lloyd's firm refusal to rework the terms of its PCW settlement plan removes at least one uncertainty for names. The extension of the deadline for acceptance gives the names time to consider their position fully. They should do this in the firm knowledge that Lloyd's offer is the only one available.

Seeking salvation elsewhere would be a course fraught with uncertainty and the prospect of an even more painful ending after years of legal turmoil. The odds against doing better by holding out against the settlement proposals are very long.

Some names have gross liabilities as high as £1.4 million. Under the rescue plan, these would be reduced to £240,000. Tax might halve that again to £120,000. Lloyd's is helping further by asking agents to provide an estimate of names' results from 1984 on their non-PCW syndicates.

There has also been a push to resolve the position under stop-loss policies. PCW names passing the current-year solvency test may also receive cash from their open years.

If the concept of unlimited liability had meant what it says, PCW members would have borne much more of the burden.

Early indications, even before Lloyd's clarification yesterday, were that a high level of acceptance seems likely. There must now be every chance that the required 90 per cent figure will, indeed, be forthcoming and that the affair will at last be laid to rest.

The perpetrators of the massive fraud have so far escaped the consequences of their actions. Some of the resources, human and financial, freed by a settlement, should then be directed forcefully in pursuit of justice.

Oil price collapse hits Aran

By Joe Joseph

The worldwide collapse in oil prices last year hit sharply into profits at Aran Energy, the Irish exploration company which is now looking to its newly acquired 4 per cent stake in the North Sea Alba field to revive its fortunes.

Pretax profits sank to Ir£464,000 (£416,000) from Ir£2,580 million (£2,311 million) last year, reflecting lower returns from its interest in the Forties field and from the Kinsale Head Royalty.

A steep drop in turnover from Ir£31.66 million (£28.39 million) to Ir£23.48 million (£21.06 million) masked an increase in the volume of Aran's sales last year and reflected the effect of lower oil prices on the company's downstream operations.

Aran said yesterday it was raising Ir£11 million (£9.87 million) through a placing of 24 million new ordinary shares at Ir46.5p (42p) each.

Existing shareholders will be able to subscribe for the new shares at the rate of one for every 20 held, representing 28.7 per cent of the shares to be placed.

Aran says the cash raised will provide funds for further appraisal of the Alba field, about which it is particularly optimistic. The cash will also give the company the freedom to develop its exploration activities in the North Sea, the Celtic Sea and onshore in the United Kingdom.

Bechtel wins main share of \$1 billion Gulf gas contract

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A British company, Bechtel, has won the main share in a \$1 billion (£595 million) contract to develop a new natural gas field in the Gulf state of Qatar.

The company, which has been responsible for the high-technology engineering in many of the North Sea oilfields, will develop the field in partnership with Technip of France. This contract will provide 300 jobs in Britain.

The bulk of the engineering work, procurement, project management and support services will be provided by Bechtel from its Hammer-smith office in London.

Bechtel has already carried out conceptual and basic design work for the Qatar

government and has now built eight of the world's 14 liquid natural gas plants - including plants in neighbouring Kuwait and Abu Dhabi.

Mr Riley Bechtel, the managing director, said: "Bechtel and Technip are privileged and honoured to have been chosen for what is one of the most exciting, ambitious and prestigious projects likely to be awarded in the Middle East for many years. Together, we will concentrate our best efforts so that Qatar's energy needs are met by a successful and quality project, completed in the shortest possible time."

The Qatar North Field, discovered in 1971, is re-

garded as the world's largest single source of undeveloped energy and lies in shallow coastal water. It is 30 times the size of the largest gas field in the British sector of the North Sea.

Gas from the field will be piped ashore for processing at a new plant which Bechtel will build and the propane, butane, petrol and naptha extracted from the gas will be sold on the international market.

The remaining gas will be compressed and distributed through a new pipeline system to domestic consumers in Qatar. Excess gas produced will be reinjected into existing offshore oil fields, where it will be stored as a strategic reserve.

Whittington slips into the red after writeoffs

By Lawrence Lever

Whittington Engineering, the metal fabricator, has slipped into the red with pretax losses of £159,000 for the year to end-January compared with a profit of £99,000 for the previous year.

The company made a loss of 11.5p per share compared with 10.6p earnings per share in the previous year. It is paying a final dividend of 1p.

The losses were swelled by £102,000 worth of exceptional items relating to the writing-off of obsolete stock and

payments to a number of directors who left the company last year.

The company is also taking below the line £51,000 of extraordinary items - representing the cost of an abortive acquisition.

Whittington said yesterday it was firmly committed to expanding its engineering division the main activity of which is the designing and manufacture of bulk material handling systems.

Grand Met pays £19m to buy RHM dairy

By Michael Tate

Grand Metropolitan is buying Dairy Produce Packers, Ranks Hovis McDougall's dairy manufacturing business, for £19.5 million in cash.

DPP, which manufactures cheese at two plants in Northern Ireland and has a butter and cheese packing facility at Glasgow, is the leading British maker of processed cheese. It has built a reputation for developing high-quality, innovative processed cheese products for the retail, catering and fast-food markets.

Grand Met says the purchase will complement its Express Foods Group arm's dairy manufacturing business, Britain's largest independent dairy manufacturer.

DPP made trading profits of £1.8 million in the year to end-August on a turnover of £83 million. Grand Met expects considerable benefits from the acquisition as DPP takes advantage of Express's extensive British marketing and distribution coverage.

TEMPUS

Rough ride for banking sector

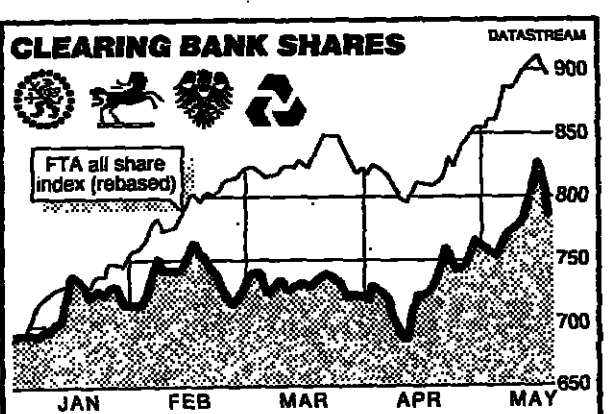
It has been a grim week for the banking sector and the stock market, being the emotional animal that it is, will probably ensure that the rough ride for the banks continues for some time.

The news of Citicorp's £3 billion bad-debt provision knocked an incipient sector recovery on the head and sent bank shares tumbling. They recovered a little yesterday but across the sector, the move looked technical.

The short-term question for the London market is what the clearers will do about provisions in their July half-year results.

Some degree of higher provisioning than might otherwise have taken place looks inevitable. (The Bank of England is unlikely to be happy with a lower provisioning level than US banks for long.) Midland is the prime candidate, with about \$4 billion lent to problem countries and the lowest LDC debt provisioning ratio - about 6 per cent.

It is still possible that some British banks will bow to pressure for a one-off provisioning if all the big US banks choose this route. Although Midland is most in need of this, the numbers suggest it is the least likely to do it. A 20 per cent provision-



ing level against bad debt - Citicorp's level - would cost about £400 million, more than 100 per cent of this year's estimated profits.

Standard Chartered would also be heavily affected, needing provisions of about £150 million, or roughly 80 per cent of this year's expected profits. Lloyds would have to put aside some £375 million, amounting to more than 70 per cent of expected profits.

National Westminster, with the least exposure and the highest provisions, could most easily afford it and could well choose to do so. Barclays is also in a relatively comfortable position.

Either way, analysts see Midland's long-expected

rights issue as both closer and bigger than before. Some experts anticipate an issue of up to £700 million which would bring Midland's capital ratios into the middle range of its competitors.

Midland would no doubt like to have waited for a higher share price to minimize the dilution to earnings per share. But in the circumstances, that looks like pie in the sky and the bank may simply decide it has to swallow its pride yet again and raise the extra capital.

The longer-term outlook is also rather doubtful. There is nothing absolute about a 20 per cent provisioning level. With much LDC debt trading on the secondary market at

under 60 per cent of face value, banks' provisions should possibly be higher.

Nor is there clear proof that Citicorp's action will have broken the debt logjam. Some Cassandras say it will simply make it easier for borrowers to renege on repayments, although it could equally produce more imaginative rescheduling ideas.

To some extent, Brazil will be a test case.

There is some merit in the argument that now is the time to pick up bank shares cheaply - particularly Lloyds and Midland which look like making strong profits progress on other fronts. By spreading their higher provisioning over two or three years, then 1987 profits might suffer by 20 per cent or less.

The market has been getting better at distinguishing between different banks. The Scottish clearers, with little Latin American exposure, were leniently treated after Citicorp's news. Lloyds and Midland suffered the biggest price falls.

Investors are likely to become even more discriminating over the next few months, but that is unlikely to make a difference to the chronic underperformance of the sector as a whole.

EHP expands out of static market

On the surface, European Home Products hardly sounds like a great story.

Its original business, the distribution and retailing of Singer sewing machines across Europe, is hardly a growth market, since sewing machines are expected to, and usually do, last a lifetime.

And in Britain, despite having been a leading brand name for more than 100 years, Singer has not exactly covered itself in glory especially after the painful closure of its Clydebank factory near Glasgow.

Followers of the shares will remember EHP's inauspicious market debut last September, following a newspaper report critical of its

chairman's past business dealings. The shares were massively undersubscribed, and opened at a discount to the issue price of 160p.

Although the shares have recovered their poise somewhat to stand at 230p, the current rating still seems to reflect surface impressions, rather than growth prospects.

In continental Europe, the Singer name enjoys considerable prestige. EHP has one of the largest retail networks in Europe, where new stores are much easier to find than in Britain. EHP opened a net 20 new stores in the first quarter of this year alone.

To combat static sewing machine sales, EHP's strategy is twofold. In northern

Europe, it is expanding the range of items stocked in its large outlets to embrace materials, paper patterns, belts and other accessories like scarves and jewellery. In southern Europe, it has capitalised on its rights to use the Singer name on other electrical goods in its stores.

European acquisitions seem to come cheaper too, especially in EHP's prime areas of consumer goods and retailing. Last week's acquisition of Horst A Werner, a West German distributor of socks and tights, is a forerunner of what can be done.

The purchase price of £10 million implies an exit multiple of 10 times tax earnings. But the company has local tax losses and will enjoy

a three-year tax holiday.

Not only is this a profitable business in its own right with 10 per cent of the West German stock market, but it offers the opportunity for expansion and the basis for opening Stock Shop clones on the Continent, except West Germany.

The group is looking at other potential acquisitions, especially in Spain and West Germany, and another, bigger purchase is believed to be in the offing. Including Werner for seven-and-a-half months, EHP should make £5.5 million pretax this year. The prospective multiple is a shade over 14, leaving the shares at an undeserved discount to the retail sector.

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Appleby	Motors/Autocar	
2	Rivlin	Property	
3	Askey (Laura)	Draperies/Stores	
4	Seck	Textiles	
5	GR Int	Industrials E-K	
6	Hampton Ind	Industrials E-K	
7	Brown Shipley	Bank/Discount	
8	Smiths Ind	Industrials S-Z	
9	Vickers	Industrials S-Z	
10	Meca Levene	Leisure	
11	Countrywide	Building/Roads	
12	Anchor Chemical	Chemicals/Plas	
13	Drummond	Textiles	
14	Allied Lon	Property	
15	Woodward (as)	Draperies/Stores	
16	Nor West (as)	Bank/Discount	
17	Cray Elec	Electricals	
18	Gr Portland	Property	
19	Fitch Lovell	Property	
20	Evans of Leeds	Property	
21	Wolfschlaeger Risk	Chemicals/Plas	
22	Unigroup	Industrials S-Z	
23	Racal Elect (as)	Electricals	
24	Bryson	Oil/Gas	
25	Rank Org (as)	Industrials L-R	
26	Etam	Draperies/Stores	
27	Haynes Publishing	Newspapers/Pub	
28	GKN (as)	Industrials E-K	
29	Essex Prop	Property	
30	Uthmaniyah	Oil/Gas	
31	Coates (as)	Draperies/Stores	
32	Coates Bros	Chemicals/Plas	
33	Davison	Textiles	
34	Tottenham Hotspur	Leisure	
35	Accord	Newspapers/Pub	
36	Rockware	Industrials L-R	
37	James Stroud	Electricals	
38	Wood (Anshur)	Industrials S-Z	
39	Symcor	Industrials S-Z	
40	TI	Industrials S-Z	
41	Chiffards Daines	Foods	
42	Stanley (AG)	Draperies/Stores	
43	Whescon	Industrials S-Z	
44	Feb	Building/Roads	
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Please take into account any minus signs

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Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

UNDATED

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

INDEX-LINKED

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1987	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Net	Gross

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began May 11. Dealings end next Friday. Contango day June 1. Settlement day June 8.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks, volumes are on page 26

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

BREWERIES

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

FINANCE AND LAND

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

FOODS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

CINEMAS AND TV

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

DRAPERY AND STORES

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

ELECTRICALS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

E-K

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

L-R

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

S-Z

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

INSURANCE

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

LEISURE

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

MINING

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

OIL & GAS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

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1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

PROPERTY

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

SHIPPING

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

TEXTILES

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

TOBACCOS

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Net	Gross	Vol	P/E

© Ex dividend & Ex all b Forecast dividend & interim payment provided & Price at suspension & Dividend and yield exclude a special payment & Pre-merger figures & Forecast earnings & Ex other & Ex rights & Ex temp or share split & 1st free No significant date.

Edited by
Peter Gartland

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Gold's new glitter

Ever since gold peaked at \$850 an ounce in 1980 the bugs have been trying to talk the precious metal back up. The fact that they have been unsuccessful is a tribute to the finely tuned antennae of the world's financial system.

Go back seven years and you will find an era of rampant inflation, sluggish stock markets, a high oil price and widespread political nervousness triggered off by the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan.

Move on through the 1980s and you see the inflation dragon being slain, stock markets booming, oil declining, interest rates high and even the emerging glasnost.

These are not the conditions in which a non-income-producing asset, which has been cast in the role of a hedge against political and economic shock, thrives. So gold has spent most of this decade stuck in the doldrums.

Even severe shocks such as President Sadat's assassination in 1981 and the Falklands War the next year failed to make a significant impact and the highest price achieved by gold in 1985 was but \$341.

But since the start of 1986 gold has been quietly but steadily making a comeback. The 1986 high was \$443 and, at its present trading level of around \$470, it looks both secure and likely to test the \$500-an-ounce barrier before too long.

So why is gold enjoying a renaissance when the super-powers are tentatively dancing the waltz of peace and stock markets are booming?

One clue lies in the strong performance of stock markets themselves. Soaring share values in most sectors have made it easy for investors to notch up capital gains.

The question to which no one knows the answer is whether these stock market highs represent the top of the market from which the only direction is down or whether markets are simply taking a breather before moving on to new and higher ground.

It is the fear among some investors that markets have peaked and that now is the time to take profits for re-allocation in a still rising investment that has contributed to the surge of gold. Declining interest rates have also prompted investors to take a fresh look at the yellow metal.

Then there is the simple equation of supply and demand. Last year the Japanese bought more than 650 tonnes of gold to mint a coin commemorating the 60th year of Emperor Hirohito's accession.

There were other factors too. In the latest annual survey of gold published this week by Consolidated Gold Fields, the author George



Milling-Stanley: two factors

Milling-Stanley points to two main factors that stimulated investors' interest last year.

First, there were the increasingly gloomy forecasts for the American economy, particularly on the value of the dollar. Secondly, there were fears of a serious disruption to precious metal supplies from South Africa, the world's largest gold producer.

There is no shortage of possibilities for private investors wishing to invest in gold. They can buy physical stocks of bullion or any of the gold coins, such as the American Eagle or the Canadian Maple Leaf, which have sprung up to fill the vacuum created by the marketing demise of the kruggerand.

There are three principal disadvantages associated with holding physical stocks — first, the problem of storage and protection; secondly, the 15 per cent non-refundable VAT charge on purchases of gold bars or coins unless you buy and keep them offshore; and thirdly, the trend dictating that the price of physical gold lags behind that of gold mining and production share prices.

Private investors can also participate in gold futures and options markets but ought to be aware of the high risk-high reward nature of such markets before plunging in. The easiest way for private investors of modest means to participate in the gold market, and the one providing the best spread of risk, is a specialist unit trust. There is no shortage of such funds and frequently there is a shakedown jump sum investment of as little as £500.

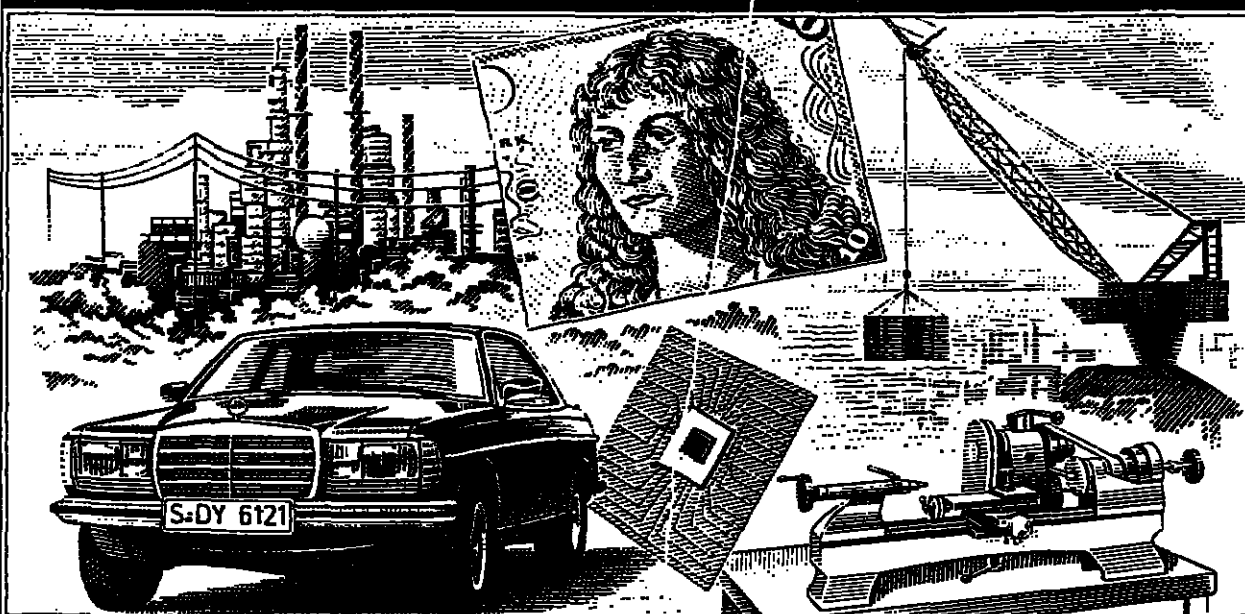
In the past 12 months the gold share-investing unit trusts from groups such as Henderson, Gartmore, NM Schroder, MIM Britannia and Target have done particularly well. The star performer has been the highly specialized Waverley Australasian gold fund.

People who already have an exposure to gold, or are planning one in the very near future, will take comfort from a view published this week by Brown Shipley Investment Management that the price is set to move higher. "Even without a shakeout jump sum (probable) or a dollar collapse (possible), but in our view unlikely," says Brown Shipley, "an intuitive feeling is gaining ground that gold has been left behind by other traditional investment media."

Even so, the best advice on gold is: Don't be greedy. The precious metal looks set for a sustained run but it remains one of the most volatile investments imaginable. Gold should never account for more than 10 per cent of your portfolio.

Peter Gartland

Time to buy into Europe's strongest economy...



DUMÉNIL German Growth Fund

The industrial excellence and technological skill of Germany need little introduction. This is one of the world's three leading economies, and the Deutsche Mark is an important reserve currency in spite of the Deutsche Mark's strength. Germany continues to enjoy vast export markets — US \$200 billion in 1986 — and a healthy domestic economy.

The German economy is on a solid, if undramatic, growth trend. Its stockmarket has been overtaken on an exaggerated level of the effects on exports of the high Deutsche Mark and is now, we believe, substantially undervalued. It is many world-leading companies that should lead in any well-balanced portfolio and their offerings, at current levels, are fast becoming evident to the large institutional investors of the USA and Japan.

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growth through careful research and active investment principally on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. The fund will be advised by one of Germany's leading private banks, Georg Meißner & Sohn in Frankfurt, and managed by Dumenil Unit Trust Management Limited in London.

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SIGNATURE
Initial applicants must attach sign and (pre-filled) stamp.

Broader Co-op

The Co-operative Bank is seeking to broaden its customer base. Its research has shown that one in three customers would consider transferring their accounts to a bank that opened longer hours. Since May 5 the Co-op's 87 branches have been open from 9.30am to 5pm. In order to attract customers from rival banks, it is waiving the usual 50p cheque encashment fee until the end of July.

Rolls offer

Private investors who bought shares in the Rolls-Royce privatization issue will be able to sell their allocations through any branch of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society from today. To offer this service, the society has come to a special arrangement with the stockbrokers Quilter Goodison. The service is offered to both customers and non-customers of the Cheltenham & Gloucester. It costs 1.5 per cent, with a minimum of £15 plus VAT.

Dearer debits

Citibank is introducing a new personal banking tariff on June 1. Free banking for customers in credit stays, but debits for overdrawn customers will be charged 85p instead of 75p each.

Personal pension plus

A personal pension will produce a better result than membership of a typical final salary scheme for people likely to stay with their current employer for less than five years, according to Chris Hatry, pensions director of Legal & General.

Mr Hatry, speaking yesterday at the annual conference of the National Association of Pension Funds, said many employers still believed their workers would get a better deal from a good final salary scheme than from a personal pension. This was often true for older employees and those likely to stay with the same employer for a long time, but was not always so for younger ones. "Most employees," he said, "who are under 35 and who stay for less than

five years before changing jobs would benefit by opting out of a final salary scheme even if the employer was not prepared to contribute to their personal pension."

John Major, the Social Security Minister, promised that personal pensions regulations would be published "very speedily" after the general election. The Government intended personal pensions to be available from banks, building societies and unit trust groups, as well as insurance companies, from January 1988.

Mr Major said the Conservatives wanted to see the continuation and expansion of good occupational schemes.

PG

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PICKING A WINNER HAS NEVER BEEN EASY. NOW IT ISN'T NECESSARY.

The international stock exchanges today offer exciting opportunities for growth for all kinds of savers and investors. And the simple way to take advantage of these markets is through unit trusts.

What's not so simple is which unit trust — there are over 1000 trusts to choose from — or when to buy and when to sell. Which is why in 1985 Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd, came up with a new approach: the Abbey MasterTrust.

15 Nest Eggs Instead Of One. With the MasterTrust your investment has access to 15 different Abbey unit trusts which cover all the world's leading stockmarkets, but your minimum investment is no more than it would be for any single unit trust.

So you don't have to pick a winner. As an Abbey MasterTrust investor you have an overall fund manager who will take all the important decisions for you. He will monitor all of the 15 trusts daily, spreading your investment for growth and security.

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You Can Invest As Little As £500. The minimum lump sum investment for the MasterTrust is only £500 and additional investments can be made thereafter for a minimum of just £100.

Your Money Is In Safe Hands. To provide extra security and to protect the value of your investments should share markets fall the fund manager has more secure forms of investment available such as the capital reserve trust.

This should help your investment ride out any stock market fall quite comfortably.

And your money is in safe hands. Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd is one of the largest unit trust management groups in Great Britain with total funds under management of more than £700 million. It is also a subsidiary of Abbey Life Group plc, an institution with over £2,400 million of investment assets. Safe hands indeed.

Invest Now For An Instant Discount. Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd are offering a 1% extra allocation of units for all investments in Abbey MasterTrust received by the 30th June 1987.

Simply fill in the coupon below and return it with your cheque to Marketing Operations Manager, Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd, PO Box 33, 80 Holden Road, Bournemouth BH8 5AL. Or talk to your financial adviser.

General Information: You can buy or sell units on any business day. Written confirmation will be sent on receipt of your subscription and a Unit Certificate issued within six weeks. Payments for repurchased units are normally made within ten days of receipt of your repurchase certificate. Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times, Times and Daily Telegraph. An initial charge of 1% is included in the offer price and there is no annual management charge other than the charge on the underlying trusts (Group Trusts) an annual charge on Group Trusts of 0.75% of the value of the fund is deducted from the income. The trust deed permits maximum charges of 7% initial and 2% annual, subject to three months notice to unit holders. Annual charges on group trusts are currently no more than 0.5% per annum. Repurchase is on a first-come, first-served basis. Repurchase requests are processed on 1st May and 1st July (final). Trustees: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Expenses: Expenses are reflected in the unit price.

I enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in the Accumulation Units of Abbey MasterTrust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application. I am over 18 years of age.

Name _____ Address _____ Postcode _____

Date and Signature _____

Abbey MasterTrust
MEMBER OF THE UNIT TRUST ASSOCIATION

Another boost for the givers and their profits

A unit trust that combines the opportunity for investors to make money and give donations to charity received a shot in the arm this week when it was relaunched by Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury.

The United Charities unit trust was originally launched in 1982 as the Mencap unit trust. Mencap gives financial support to projects helping people with mental handicaps and their families. The relaunched and renamed fund has added five other charities — the Country Landowners Association's Charitable Trust, Dr Barnardo's, the English-Speaking Union, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. M&G provides the fund management and Barclays Unicorn the administration.

The nominated charity benefits from receipt of a donation equivalent to the commission normally paid to a unit trust intermediary. Investors can also donate the income from the units to their chosen charity under a deed of covenant.

More details are available from Murray Noble, Lonsdale Chambers, 27 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1NF (01-405 6356).

Touche Ross, the leading accountancy firm, estimates there are more than 20,000 millionaires in Britain and more than 100,000 half-millionaires.

These individuals and the ever increasing number of home-owners and new rich are demanding more sophisticated and independent advice, says Touche Ross. To cater for this market the accountancy firm this week launched its personal financial planning service. Touche Ross says that more than 200 professional staff operating from 23 centres around the country will offer a complete service covering investment strategy, tax, pension planning, school fees and wills.

The service is available to individuals with more than £100,000 of disposable capital or income of £50,000 or more.

Stephen Edell, a solicitor and former Law Commissioner, who is now a partner in the London firm of Crossman Black & Keane, was appointed the first Building Societies' Ombudsman this week.

The Ombudsman Scheme comes into operation on July 1, when Mr Edell takes up his appointment. In his new role, he will investigate complaints made against building societies, and will be able to make awards of up to £100,000. A society will have to comply with the ombudsman's decision, unless it publicizes the details of the decision against it, and is able to justify its reasons for not accepting it.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales has published an up-to-date tax guide for



people who work abroad. Written by Malcolm Ridley and John Cliff, of Deloitte Haskins and Sells, Tax implications of Working Abroad offers practical guidance on resident status, National Insurance, foreign pensions and the various tax reliefs available. The booklet costs £5 and is available from the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Gloucester House, 399 Sibley Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes MK9 2HL.

The Britannia Building Society is introducing a new six months' notice limited issue account on Tuesday, May 25. The new account, Trident Six, offers a guaranteed 12 months' differential of 3.4 per cent over the

ordinary share rate. Interest is paid annually, and the current rate will be 8.4 per cent net. Monthly income is also available at the rate of 8.09 per cent. The minimum investment is £1,000, and must be held for six months. Thereafter, withdrawals can be made subject to 28 days' notice, or on demand with 28 days' loss of interest.

From Monday, June 1, a telephone inquiry service designed to help independent intermediaries to understand the requirements of authorization under the Financial Services Act is being introduced. The service will be operated by FIMBRA, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association. It will be open from 9am to 5.30pm on week days. A 24-hour answering service will also operate, including weekends. Telephone 01-929 2711 and ask for the Authorisation Helpline.

The Scottish fund managers Murray Johnstone have launched the Murray Olympiad Income Fund. The portfolio will comprise equities and equity-related investments primarily. The initial portfolio will be invested 40 per cent in the UK, 30 per cent in North America, and 30 per cent split equally among Europe, Japan and other Far Eastern countries.

Units are fixed at 50p each until June 30. Distributions will be made quarterly with the first one being on January 1.

Murray Johnstone has also introduced the Capital Builder Savings Plan, which allows investors to put a minimum of £40 a month in any of its existing seven funds.

On June 13 Barclays Unicorn is introducing a Smaller Companies Trust designed to achieve capital growth. Investment will be initially in UK companies with a capitalization value below £50 million. The portfolio will comprise 30 to 60 different holdings. A proportion of the fund may be invested in the Unlisted Securities Market and in unquoted securities. The minimum investment is £200 or £20 a month. The initial charge is 5 per cent and the annual management fee is 0.75 per cent. The offer price of 50p will be available until July 3. A discount given during this period.

ADAMAS

The brightest investment turnaround opportunity for 1987

The Canadian economy is all set for a dramatic turnaround. It has been forecast* that in 1987 the Canadian stockmarket will 'outperform almost all other world markets.'

EXPLOITING THE BRIGHTEST PROSPECTS
To exploit this upturn, Rothschilds are launching New Court Smaller Canadian Companies Fund, aiming for all out capital growth. The managers have identified a spread of the most promising investment opportunities — from compact disc manufacturers to mechanical engineers, from natural resources to leisure. And we have chosen to invest in smaller companies with the entrepreneurial potential to turn today's bright prospects into tomorrow's blue chips.

ENCOURAGING SIGNS AROUND
There are strong pointers to a turnaround in the fundamentals of the Canadian economy, fuelled by economic growth — specifically in the US, with whom Canada has 70% of its trade. Furthermore, the Canadian dollar has recently risen to its highest level for two years against the US Dollar. Corporate earnings are expected to grow by 20% with G.N.P. growth of around 3%.

UNPRECEDENTED FOREIGN INVESTMENT
Excess liquidity worldwide is causing investors to look beyond markets such as Germany and Japan towards Canada, encouraged by the Ottawa Government's call to 'invest in Canadian companies.' Since January of this year there has been a substantial flow of foreign capital into Canada.

SMALLER COMPANIES GROW FASTER AND FURTHER
Traditionally, smaller companies outperform their big brothers in the longer term, and Rothschilds believe that smaller Canadian companies especially will benefit from the anticipated economic upturn. Rothschilds' success in funds investing in smaller companies is clearly demonstrated by their Smaller European Companies Fund (up 99.5% since launch*) and Smaller Australasian Companies Fund (up 62.6% since launch**).

DISCOUNT AND INITIAL OFFER PRICE FOR LAUNCH
The launch price of units in the New Court Smaller Canadian Companies Fund is 50p. An introductory discount of 19% will be given to all investors during the initial offer period which closes on 29th May 1987.

Complete and send the coupon with your cheque (minimum £500) NOW.

New Court Smaller Canadian Companies Fund

To: N.M. Rothschild Asset Management Limited, FREEPOST London EC4B 4RD (NO STAMP REQUIRED).

I/We hereby apply to invest £ (minimum £500) in Accumulation Units of New Court Smaller Canadian Companies Fund (subject to the terms of the Trust Deed constituting the Fund) at the special discount of 19% on the initial offer price of 50p per unit applicable until 29th May 1987.

I/We enclose a cheque payable to N.M. Rothschild Fund Management Limited.

Surname (Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms) _____

Full Forenames _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signature _____

(In the case of joint applications, all must sign and provide names and addresses on a separate sheet.)

Professional Adviser (if any) _____

This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland, nor to persons under the age of 18.

ART 002

ROTHSCHILD ASSET MANAGEMENT

FOURTH F INFORMATION
Management and Trusteeship: N.M. Rothschild Asset Management Limited is the London based investment management company of the Rothschild Group and it will run the Fund on behalf of the Managers, its wholly owned subsidiary, N.M. Rothschild Fund Management Limited, of 10, Avenue Harcourt, N. Westminster, London EC4A 3DF. Registered in London No. 202355N. The Trustee is National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lombard, London EC2P 2BB. The Fund is a Unit Trust authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry and qualified as a 'qualifying' investment. The Trust Deed permits investment in traded securities within the guidelines laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry. Charges: An initial charge of 5% is included in the buying price of units together with an administration charge of up to 1% or 1.25% per unit whichever is less. An annual charge of 1% of the value of the Fund plus VAT is levied in defray management expenses. Income: The estimated gross yield of the Fund is currently expected to be higher than the current rate of 14% per unit. Only accumulation units will be issued. The Fund's income will not be distributed but reflected in the price of those units. Tax certificates will be issued to unit holders each year showing the amount of income accumulated and tax credits attributable to their investments.

During Applications will be acknowledged by contract note and unit certificates will be posted approximately 6 weeks later. Units may be sold at any time by telephoning the manager or by returning your repurchase certificate. A cheque for the proceeds of the sale of units will be sent to you as soon as the proceeds are received. Units may be redeemed at any time by telephoning the manager or by returning your repurchase certificate. The price of units and yield are quoted daily in the national press and commission is paid on all sales and purchases. The price of units and yield are also available on request. The offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland, nor to persons under the age of 18.

*Dominion Securities Source: Wall Street Journal, February 1987
**Offer to buy back with net income reinvested from launch on 23rd November 1984 to 14th April 1987
*Offer to buy back with net income reinvested from launch on 25th November 1985 to 14th April 1987

THERE'S STILL TIME TO GET ON BOARD

You may have seen our advertisement for the County South East Asia Growth Trust. It first appeared on 31st January. Those who invested then made a wise decision. The Trust has grown in just 109 days by over 16.5%* — that's a better return than many investors receive in a full year.

The trust aims to achieve all out growth through aggressively managed investments in the markets of South East Asia.

We tipped this region because of the considerable attractions of Singapore and Malaysia. We predicted there was more to come from Hong Kong — and that there were opportunities in the smaller South East Asian markets too.

Unit prices and the income from them can go down as well as up — but it was a good recommendation.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN OUR ORIENT EXPRESS

In Singapore GNP is up. Exports and tourism are strong and recent property deals suggest improved confidence locally.

COUNTY UNIT TRUSTS

Growth figures on an offer to bid price basis with income reinvested *31.1.87-20.5.87 **20.5.87-20.5.87. The purchase price on 20.5.87 was 89 p per unit, and the estimated annual gross yield was 0.9%. Source: OSC Group. It should be noted that past performance should not necessarily be regarded as a guide to future returns.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Contract notes will be issued within 7 days; certificates within 42 days. The prices and yield are published daily in the leading national newspapers. You can sell units back to the Managers on any business day at the Bid Price ruling on the receipt of your instructions and a cheque will be sent within 7 days of receipt of your repurchase certificate. Annual charge of 5% is included in the Offer Price of units. Remuneration is paid to qualified intermediaries — rates available on request. The annual charge is 1% per annum (plus VAT) of the Trust value which is deducted from the Trust's gross income. The income distribution will be made annually on 1st May to unit holders registered by the 1st March. Trustees: Royal Exchange Trust Company Limited, Managers: County Unit Trust Managers, Registered Office: Chancery House, 31 Chancery Street, London EC2N 2DL. Registered Number: 907310. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

FIRST CLASS INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

Post to: County Unit Trust Managers Ltd, 161 Cheapside, London EC2V 6EU.

I/We wish to invest £ (minimum investment £500) in the S.E. Asia Growth Trust at the offer price ruling on the day of receipt of my cheque, made payable to County Unit Trust Managers Limited.

Or debit my ACCESS account Card No. _____

Surname(s): Mr/Ms/Ms _____

First names: (in full) _____

Address: (in full) _____

Date: _____ Signature(s): _____ I am/We are over 18

Please tick for: Automatic reinvestment of income ☐ Details of regular savings scheme ☐ Details of the County Share Exchange Scheme ☐ Further information on the County S.E. Asia Growth Trust ☐

A member of the National Westminster Bank Group

FAMILY MONEY/3



The politicians' small print

PETER GARTLAND assesses the election manifestos from the viewpoint of private investors

The three main political parties published their general election manifestos this week and while the main points of strategy on defence, education, health and law and order have been comprehensively reported, there are a number of points of particular interest to individual savers and investors.

The SDP/Liberal Alliance programme envisages the UK joining the European Monetary System (EMS), which it claims will make our currency more stable and bring about a reduction of up to 2 per cent in interest rates.

The Alliance would introduce a new vehicle called industrial investment bonds that "will help bridge the gap between the new businessman who needs access to low-cost funds and the investor, including individuals, who would like to back him or her, provided the balance between risk and reward is reasonable".

New and growing companies would be able to raise

The Alliance promises it would make home income plans a really worthwhile benefit for older people by allowing them to postpone interest payments and qualify for tax relief when the interest is finally repaid. It says that on life assurance industry calculations this would give an 80 per cent boost to the income of a woman in her seventies.

At the other end of the age range the Alliance says that, for those on average incomes or lower, it would provide what amounts to a grant of up to £1,000, through a scheme to be known as "Home Start", to help them to climb on to the first rung of the home-owning ladder and meet their early mortgage repayments.

The Alliance says it would also abolish stamp duty for Home Start buyers which, it estimates, should be worth £600 to a first-time buyer. Mortgage interest relief would be confined to the basic rate of tax for everyone.

Under a plan dubbed "Rent-a-Room", the Alliance says it will enable owner-occupiers and council tenants to let a room in their home more easily. Rental income of up to £60 a week would not be subject to income tax or capital gains, and re-possession of rooms would be made easier.

The Alliance says it would maintain the right of tenants to buy their council house. Anyone who was precluded from buying his or her present home would be given the opportunity to buy another property on comparable terms through portable discounts. Household rates would be replaced by local income tax.

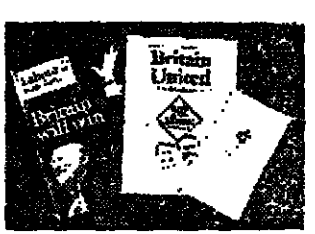
The Alliance says it would not reverse privatizations already made but would proceed with plans to privatize the water authorities and the Central Electricity Generating Board.

There are no big surprises in the Conservative manifesto. It is largely a case of more of the

share ownership has trebled and almost one in five of the adult population now own shares directly.

The Conservatives promise that in the next Parliament they will continue to extend share ownership, introduce their proposed tax incentives for profit-related pay, and privatize more state industries. After the planned privatization of the British Airports Authority, next on the list will be the water authorities, followed by the electricity industry.

An important consequence of the 1983-1987 Conservative Administration's social



security reform was deregulation of the pensions industry. The occupational pension rights of job-changers have already been improved but the Government's plan for implementing a tax regime for personal pensions was one of the main casualties of this year's truncated Finance Act.

The manifesto restates the Conservatives' intention to encourage the 10 million employees who do not yet have their own occupational pension scheme to have a pension of their own. Every employee should have the right to take out a personal pension and this should be portable from job to job, according to the manifesto: "That is why we are extending favourable tax treatment from employers' schemes to personal pensions."

The manifesto states that in the next Parliament a Conservative government would reintroduce measures to give substantial tax incentives to personal pensions, and to enable members of occupational schemes to make additional voluntary contributions to a pension plan that is completely separate from their employers' schemes.

Perhaps the most characteristic proposal in the manifesto is the simple statement: "We will cut income tax still further and reduce the basic rate to 25p in the £ as soon as we prudently can."

It goes almost without saying that many of the plans outlined in the Labour Party's manifesto are in stark contrast to those of the Conservatives.

The Labour manifesto sets out the party's belief that social ownership of basic utilities, such as gas and water, is vital to ensure that every individual has access to their use and that companies contribute to Britain's industrial recovery.

Labour intends to use the existing 49 per cent state holding in British Telecom to ensure influence in its decisions. Labour adds that private shares in BT and British Gas will be converted into "special new securities". These would be bought and sold in the market in the usual way and would carry either a guaranteed return or dividends linked to the company's growth.

The manifesto restates Labour's commitment to establishing a capital repatriation scheme, using the tax system to retain British savings and investment in Britain.

There is also a plan to set up a British Industrial Invest-

ment Bank to ensure "finance for industry where it is needed, when it is needed and on terms which encourage long-term development".

On housing, Labour says it would maintain mortgage tax relief, but this would be limited to the basic rate of income tax. With the aim of assisting house purchasers, Labour would introduce a housing "log book", giving every dwelling's history, condition and construction so that purchasers would know exactly what they were buying. The log book would be transferred with the house sale.

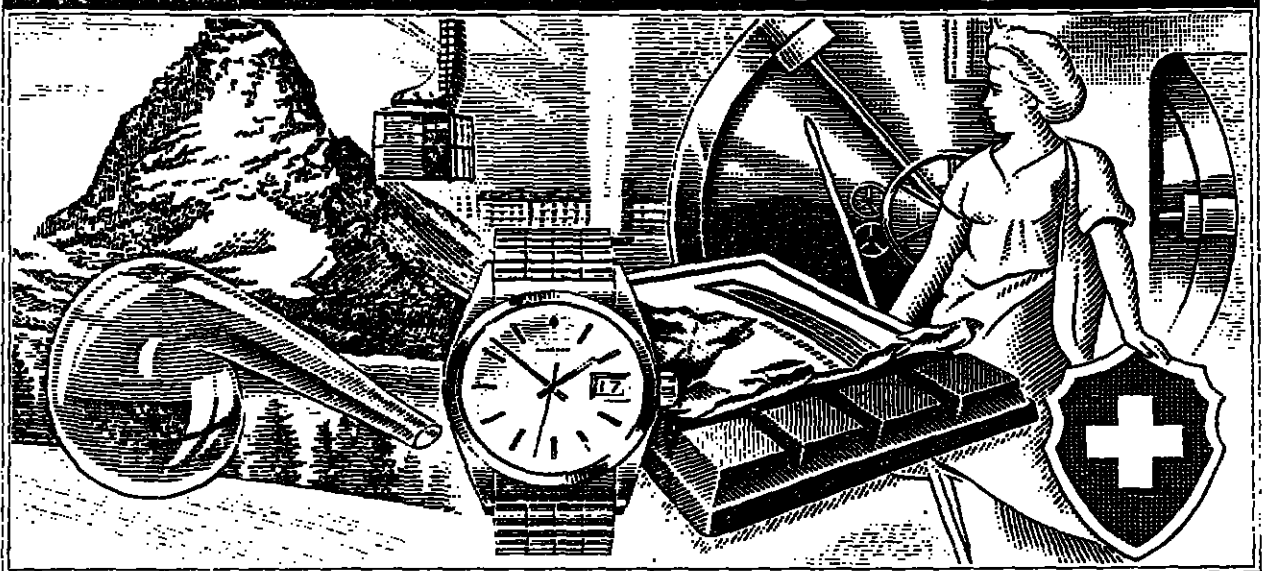
Labour says it would maintain the right of council tenants to buy their council houses.

The manifesto promises immediate increases in state pension levels and a full restoration of the State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme, SERPS. The introduction of a statutory national minimum wage is envisaged.

On direct taxation, Labour would reverse tax cuts "which the richest 5 per cent have received from the Tory Government and allocate that money instead to the most needy". Labour would also introduce a wealth tax for "the wealthiest 1 per cent of the population".

Finally, top marks to the Skipton Building Society. You can obtain the mini-manifestos of the Conservative, Labour and Alliance parties from all its 58 branches.

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Switzerland may not be a high growth economy, but it does offer a useful combination of strong, defensive investment (such as banking and insurance) with excellent individual investment opportunities - in particular the increasing number of high quality companies seeking new listings. Another important growth dimension for UK investors is, of course, the continuing strength of the Swiss Franc.

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funds through the issue of these bonds, which would pay tax-free interest to investors. The Alliance would run this side by side with the Business Expansion Scheme.

The Alliance would extend incentives to employees' share ownership and profit-sharing and would encourage wider share ownership by a scheme giving more people a direct tax incentive to become small investors.

On pensions, the Alliance plans to increase state benefits as an immediate measure. In the longer term, the proposal is to move towards an equal and flexible retirement age for men and women, giving everyone the right to retire at any age from 60 to 70, with a reduced pension for those retiring below 65 but protection for women currently approaching retirement at 60.

The Alliance has set out in detail its proposals for tax-assisted home income plans for those elderly people who wish to turn some of the capital value of their homes into spending money.

Under the Alliance's plan elderly people would be able to take out a mortgage on part of the value of the house and use it to buy an annuity that provides regular income. Interest on the loan would be added to the capital sum so that neither interest nor capital need be repaid during the borrower's lifetime.

The Alliance manifesto points out that, although several building societies and life assurance companies now offer home income plans, they are of limited value because interest has to be paid gross after the death of the borrower. Alternatively, tax relief is allowed if the borrower reduces their income by repaying the interest during their lifetime. Neither method, says the Alliance, gives really fair value and so only 25,000 home income plans have been taken out.



same policy that has largely served private investors well and a renewed commitment to pursue plans already announced but not yet implemented. Personal pensions is an obvious example of this.

So, say the Conservatives, they will continue to spread the ownership of homes, shares, pensions and savings ever more widely to give families greater financial independence.

Specifically on housing, the Conservatives say they would keep the present system of mortgage tax relief. Legislation would be introduced in the first session of the new Parliament to replace the domestic rating system with a community charge based on the level of service that local electors want and how much they are prepared to pay for it.

On share ownership the Conservatives point to the measures they have introduced to encourage people to buy shares in the company that employs them. The manifesto also refers to the introduction of personal equity plans and the privatization programme. As a result of these measures, they claim,

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You must read your application, together with a prospectus, which will normally be sent within 10 working days of receipt of settlement. The current estimated annual yield for Fidelity Special Situations Trust is 14.7% at the offer price of 73.4p on 19th May 1987. Units may be sold on any day at the bid price ruling. You will receive a cheque within 7 working days of your renewed certificate. The Trust will pay distributions on 15th October and 15th September. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of units out of which the Managers may pay remuneration to qualified intermediaries. Rates are available upon request. The Trust has an annual charge to the Manager out of income or capital of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the fund. Check our investment performance and bids daily in the Financial Times. Unit, Telegraph, Oracle page 54 and on Press 1 881 546. Trustees: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Managers: Fidelity Investment Services Limited, Registered Office: River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DW. Registered Company Number 2016355. The Trust is a wider-range Trustee as it is authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry. Members of the Unit Trust Association. Offer not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

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The dollar sign is in favour of the Caribbean

The US dollar's recent demise against sterling is causing a rekindling of interest by British investors keen to purchase a holiday home in the West Indies. The two favourites are Antigua and Barbados - not least for their high profile as popular tourist destinations, particularly with Americans and Europeans.

This, in turn, raises the prospects of a good rental return, particularly on properties that are within leisure complexes.

Both the Antigua and Barbadian dollar are linked to the American dollar - standing at roughly \$2.6 Antigua dollars and \$2 Barbadian dollars respectively and property for sale is invariably priced in US dollars.

The Antigua Tourist Board freely admits that the island's image as a holiday home base is being boosted by investors such as Peter de Savary, who has established his St James's Club there. Mr de Savary is selling villas within the club under a scheme that gives purchasers a net rental return estimated at

around 10 per cent - \$30,000 - and the story is repeated on other such estates on both islands.

Income tax was abolished by the Antigua government in 1976 and, since January 1, 1983, Antigua has been established as an offshore financial centre, and the legislation is considered to be one of the most up-to-date of such laws in the Caribbean. Copies of offshore legislation are available from the Antigua Ministry of Finance.

It should go without saying that professional advice is sought before any commitment to purchase is made. The Antigua Chamber of Commerce may well prove helpful in supplying essential data on legal requirements.

All purchasers require a Land Holder's Licence granted by the government and usually applied for by either the developer or the agent handling the sale. At the moment it is 5 per cent of the purchase price. It is usually a formality, taking a few weeks to acquire.

The initial step to secure the



Is this for you? Royal palms, left, decorate the Barbados east coast, while the market at Bridgetown boasts a still-walker

proposed purchase is to sign a private contract and pay a 10 per cent deposit that can be refundable. Property purchasing procedures closely resemble those of the UK.

There is a 2.5 per cent transfer fee ensuring that the property is registered with the Antigua Land Registry and that the property is free of all encumbrances. Also allow a further 1 to 1.5 per cent of the purchase price for essential legal fees.

Property purchasing costs in Barbados are high. All non-nationals have to pay a purchase tax of 10 per cent of the value of the property and, in addition, there are legal costs.

It is mandatory for a foreign purchaser to use a local attorney and it is advisable that this should be in addition to the buyer's own independent adviser.

Barbados has an established association of estate agents

called BEAVA (Barbados Estate Agents and Valuers Association), which liaises with local legal representatives, and firms such as Alleyne Aguilas & Altman Ltd work closely with the local attorney so that recording of property title is completed satisfactorily. Without correct title there is no real acquisition and the purchase can be declared non-valid.

Overseas purchasers cannot qualify for local mortgages in

Barbados but some developers have financing arrangements with banks either in the United States or in Europe.

Rental income is high on certain leisure complexes and Alleyne Aguilas & Altman can handle all rental aspects of the property.

One final point in Barbados there is a resale tax of 3 per cent due on completion of the sale of the property.

Diana Wildman

It's good money at a bad price

The more seedy type of entrepreneur who looks for that fast buck will always be with us. Now you may find him all too often - today's atmosphere is probably the best breeding ground he can have.

So it was not surprising to come across the following advertisement in the satirical magazine *Private Eye* on April 17: "Easy money from mail order. I'll show you how. £1.00. Box No 0961."

But it must have been something of a shock for those who parted with their pounds to receive the answer: "Put an ad like this in a newspaper or magazine and watch the money roll in. It worked with you, didn't it? Cheers!"

Is it illegal? Is it unethical?

Is it just sharp practice? One solicitor's view was that the legal position of the advertisement was "fringe". After all, the advertiser had offered and given advice for £1, however misleading the advertisement had been.

At New Scotland Yard the Fraud Squad's spokesman said: "This may not be morally correct but no offence is being committed."

Diana Bird at the Advertising Standards Authority called the advertisement "totally unacceptable" and a "cheap con". The authority has put its criticisms of this type of advertisement to the media and has urged newspapers to be more vigilant.

This particular advertisement certainly breaches the advertising industry's ethical

code, which is implemented by the Advertising Standards Authority. However, there is bad news for the victims. All the evidence is that it is not a breach of the law.

The advice is obvious if you want to avoid disappointment and distress. Do not reply to the advertisements if they ask you to send any money as it will almost certainly be a wasted investment. And do not take part in any scheme if there is a hint of sharp

practice. In this way you can put the shady advertiser out of business.

If you should be taken for a ride, always complain, either to the publication that carried the advertisement or to the Advertising Standards Authority. I myself put this advice into practice and made a complaint to *Private Eye*. To the magazine's credit, Cecilia Boggs in the classified advertisements department showed considerable concern.

"We don't like cons," she said. "I'll do something about it. Actually, I turn a lot of ads away. Mail order implies you get something for your money. This advertiser was foolish, because I have his address."

She could give no more information, however, because, fortunately for the trickster, clients with box numbers are guaranteed anonymity.

At least I am assured that this con man will not be advertising again in *Private Eye*, or possibly in any other publication.

Brian Collett



UK BOOM? PEDIGREE GROWTH!

The UK economy is now one of the fastest growing in the world - GNP up more than 3% this year and set to continue growing for at least four years more, according to the London Business School.

The Stockmarket is sizzling at the prospects of another Conservative government and large, institutional investors - particularly from the USA and Japan - are waiting in the wings to invest heavily in the UK after the election result is confirmed.

Now is your opportunity to invest at current prices and the Clerical Medical Pedigree Growth Trust is the fund to do it through.

PEDIGREE POTENTIAL

Launched on September 6th last year, the Pedigree Growth Trust set out to achieve strong capital growth, with above-average stability, by investing in British companies that demonstrate the highest standards of management over a sustained period. Such a portfolio clearly serves the needs of both the inexperienced investor and the more sophisticated investor seeking a strong UK core holding.

Proof of the potential comes from the excellent performance achieved to date, with 44.8% growth in the Offer Price, compared with 34.9% in the FT - Actuaries All Share Index (net income reinvested). Of course, you should remember that past performance is no guarantee of future success.

CLERICAL MEDICAL EXPERTISE

Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society, which is one of Britain's largest life assurance companies, managing funds in excess of £3,500 million.

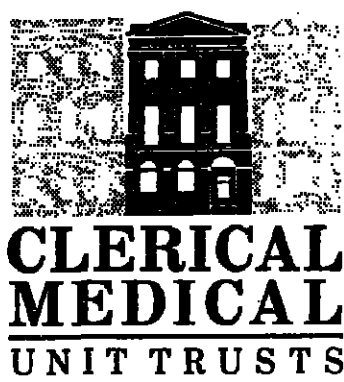
Founded in 1824, Clerical Medical have a reputation for consistently producing above-average investment returns, even during times of adversity. They have, for example, paid bonuses to their With-profits policyholders for every year since 1824.

How To Invest

The minimum initial investment is £500, but thereafter you can add amounts of £250 upward to your holding. The Offer Price on 20th May, 1987 was 36.2p. The current estimated gross yield is 1.7% p.a.

By telephone - you can buy units by phoning the Managers' Dealing Line (Free Line 0800 373393). Settlement will be required on receipt of the contract note.

By post - use the coupon below and return it together



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You should look upon your investment as long term.

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OUR NEW TOP RATE (And it won't come down on June 1st)



Some building societies are dithering and dallying over their new investment rates.

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Please use block capitals. Tick where appropriate.

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Interest paid annually. Rates and terms available. See back page 10-11 pages.

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These units are sold at a discount to the net asset value of the units. The discount is currently 10%.

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FAMILY MONEY/5

Now the high street answers back

BANKS

A week ago the Nationwide threw down the gauntlet at the clearing banks, with its launch of FlexAccount — the first current account proper to be offered by a building society.

Besides offering a comprehensive banking service, FlexAccount has two distinct attractions. It rewards customers who stay in the black by paying interest on credit balances, and where customers stray into the red, no transaction charges are levied.

Failure to qualify for free banking with any of the banks means all debit transactions throughout the charging period incur a fee, and Lloyds even charges for credits, as the table shows. Transaction charges of more than £30 a quarter are far from uncommon.

The banks, of course, are quick to point out that interest

paid on FlexAccount is not high. Present rates are 2 per cent on balances of up to £99, 3.5 per cent on sums of £100-£499, and 5 per cent on amounts of more than £500.

But even though interest on FlexAccount is paid annually, it compares favourably with the banks' traditional deposit accounts — these are currently paying 3 per cent across the board, albeit at more frequent intervals, and withdrawals are usually subject to seven days' notice or loss of interest.

Although the bank deposit account is being superseded by more attractive accounts, substantial sums remain in these low-interest vehicles. Even if people prefer to stay with their existing current bank account, they may decide to ditch the deposit account in favour of FlexAccount.

Apart from the rate of interest, the banks criticize the Nationwide for its high overdraft charges. It is true that the interest rate on an agreed unsecured overdraft is high at 1.75 per cent a month (APR 23.1 per cent), and that the penal rate for unauthorized overdrafts is a hefty 2.5 per cent a month (APR 34.4 per cent).

But when looking at the debit interest, it is worth taking into account how many

people incur these charges. In the experience of Lloyds, Midland and NatWest, roughly two-thirds of their current account customers do not pay charges. At Barclays, the figure is more than 70 per cent in any quarter.

It should also be remembered that some of these customers with Barclays, Lloyds and NatWest may not be charged because their average credit balance is £500 or more through the charging period. Seen in this context, the FlexAccount has even greater allure.

The banks, of course, have the benefit of years of experience and a highly developed branch network. The big four banks have approximately between three and five times as many branches as the Nationwide and, even following its merger with the Anglia, it will still be trailing behind.

On the cash machine front, the Nationwide is also less well equipped — it has 128 of its own, and its cards can be used in any other Link machine as well, the current total for which is 744.

So, like all products and

services, FlexAccount has its advantages and its drawbacks, but the fact that a building society has been able to produce such an attractive package so quickly must worry the banks.

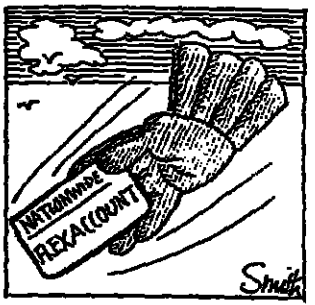
Tim Melville-Ross, Nationwide's chief general manager, said at the launch of FlexAccount that he expected regulatory action from the banks. So far none has been forthcoming. However, it is early days, and the confidence that the banks have at the moment may be short-lived.

Amanda Pardoe

BANK CURRENT ACCOUNT CHARGES

Bank	Charging period	Transaction charge	Service ²	Overdraft interest	
				Authorized	Unauthorized
Barclays	Quarterly	29p a debit ¹	£3.00	Base rate + 3% to 7%	Base rate + 12%
Lloyds	Monthly	20p an item ¹	£1.00	1 5/8% a month (18 5/8% APR) or base rate + 3% to 5%	2% a month (24% APR)
Midland	Quarterly	28p cheques, standing orders, 25p direct debits, Autobank withdrawal	£2.50	Base rate + 5% to 7%	23.1% APR
NatWest	Quarterly	28p a debit ¹	£3.00	Base rate + 3 5/8% to 5%	Base rate + 5% to 7% or 24% ³
TSB	Quarterly	27p a debit ¹	£2.75	Base rate + 3% to 5%	Base rate + 12%

Base rate currently 9%
¹ Transaction charges waived if average credit balance is £500 plus throughout charging period.
² Lloyds per charging period where free banking is not applicable.
³ NatWest also offers Credit Zone Overdrafts, current rate 18 5/8%
⁴ Transaction charges waived if average credit balance is £400 plus throughout charging period



New problems for the big lenders

It was no surprise that the 1986 Building Societies Act was the main topic at the Building Societies' Association annual conference this week — it is the first conference since the Act came into effect on January 1.

The Act allows societies to diversify into banking, insurance and housing services, including estate agency. Most of the 140 societies have adopted memoranda incorporating the new powers, and several have already made use of them. The Halifax and the Nationwide have moved into estate agency, and the Nationwide has developed a personal banking service.

Some senior executives drew attention to the Act's limitations. One restriction causing particular disquiet is the amount of funds the societies are allowed to raise on the wholesale markets. The limit is 20 per cent of liabilities, although the government can raise this to 40 per cent. Later this year, possibly in August, the association will seek an increase of at least 5 per cent.

The need for an increase is the result of competition. Besides having to vie with other lenders, the societies are also having difficulty attracting savers because of competition from privatizations, National Savings and unit trusts. They fear that without greater access to wholesale funds, mortgage queues will return. On this point, Tony Stoughton-Harris, the Anglia's chief general manager and director and the association's new



Stoughton-Harris worries chairman, says: "If and when queues come, they're going to come at the bottom of the market, and that's a worry."

Wholesale funding is not the only limitation presented by the Act. Mark Boleat, the association's secretary general until June 1 when he becomes director-general, believes it already looks dated, and he feels a new Act could be required within the next five or 10 years.

The conference proceedings ended with a speech from Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England. Drawing attention to the growing number of mortgage arrears, he said competition had led to a relaxation in lending standards and narrower margins. He added that the increase in home ownership meant many people whose jobs were less secure than the average mortgage borrower now had home loans. He urged all lenders to check on potential borrowers' obligations and encouraged the exchange of information to achieve this.

AP

TO CAPTURE THE SPIRIT OF THE EAST
ONE MUST WATCH CAREFULLY AND MOVE FAST.



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Until 29th May 1987 the fixed price launch offer is 50p per unit with a minimum investment of £500, or from £25 per month through the Henderson Investment Builder Account.

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For further information about Henderson Spirit of the East Trust ring 01-241 5840 to hear a comprehensive recorded message.

Investors are reminded that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and should regard any investment as long term.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
 Distributions of income will be paid on 21st May and 21st November, the first payment being on 21st November 1987. The initial estimated gross annual yield is 9%.

Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within five weeks of payment. "If you use a professional adviser contract notes will be sent to him. To sell units endorse your certificate and send it to the managers; payment based on the ruling bid price will normally be made within seven working days."

Unit trusts are not subject to capital gains tax; moreover a unit holder will not pay this tax on a disposal of units unless his total taxable gains from all sources in the tax year amount to more than the annual exemption limit (£26,600 — 1987/88). Prices and yields can be found daily in the national press.

An initial charge of 5.25% of the assets (equivalent to 5% of the issue price) is made by the managers and is included in the price of units when issued. Out of the initial charge, managers pay remuneration to qualified intermediaries, rates available on request. An annual charge of 1.25% (plus VAT) on the value of the Trust will be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs, with a provision in the Trust Deed to increase this to a maximum of 2% on giving 3 months' written notice to the unit holders.

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 Manager: Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd, 26 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DA (Registered Office)
 Registration Number: 856263 England. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

To: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, Dealing Department,
 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1AA.

I/we wish to invest £ (minimum £500) in Henderson Spirit of the East Trust at the fixed price of 50p per unit and enclose a cheque payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited.
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This offer will close at 5.30pm on Friday 29th May 1987. After the close of the offer, terms will be available at the daily quoted offer price. Joint applicants must both sign and attach full names and addresses separately.
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Surname

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		DISPOSAL MONTH (April 1986 to April 1987)												
Acquisition/ Expenditure month		APR 86	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN 87	FEB	MAR	APR
Mar 82	0.229	0.232	0.231	0.230	0.228	0.231	0.227	0.229	0.250	0.254	0.259	0.264	0.266	0.281
Apr	0.206	0.207	0.207	0.203	0.207	0.213	0.215	0.225	0.229	0.234	0.239	0.241	0.246	0.261
May	0.197	0.199	0.199	0.195	0.198	0.204	0.206	0.216	0.220	0.225	0.230	0.233	0.237	0.247
June	0.193	0.195	0.195	0.191	0.195	0.201	0.203	0.213	0.217	0.222	0.226	0.229	0.234	0.244
July	0.193	0.195	0.194	0.191	0.195	0.201	0.203	0.213	0.217	0.222	0.226	0.229	0.234	0.243
Aug	0.193	0.195	0.194	0.191	0.194	0.200	0.202	0.212	0.216	0.221	0.226	0.228	0.233	0.243
Sep	0.195	0.199	0.199	0.195	0.198	0.203	0.207	0.217	0.221	0.227	0.232	0.236	0.240	0.249
Oct	0.187	0.189	0.189	0.186	0.189	0.195	0.197	0.207	0.211	0.216	0.221	0.225	0.229	0.238
Nov	0.182	0.184	0.183	0.180	0.183	0.189	0.191	0.201	0.205	0.210	0.215	0.219	0.223	0.232
Dec	0.184	0.186	0.185	0.182	0.186	0.191	0.193	0.203	0.207	0.212	0.217	0.221	0.225	0.234
Jan 83	0.182	0.184	0.184	0.180	0.184	0.190	0.192	0.202	0.206	0.210	0.215	0.219	0.223	0.232
Feb	0.177	0.179	0.179	0.175	0.179	0.185	0.187	0.197	0.201	0.205	0.210	0.214	0.218	0.227
Mar	0.175	0.177	0.177	0.173	0.177	0.183	0.185	0.195	0.199	0.203	0.208	0.212	0.216	0.225
Apr	0.159	0.161	0.160	0.157	0.161	0.166	0.168	0.178	0.182	0.186	0.191	0.194	0.198	0.208
May	0.154	0.156	0.155	0.152	0.156	0.161	0.163	0.173	0.177	0.181	0.186	0.189	0.193	0.203
June	0.151	0.153	0.153	0.150	0.154	0.159	0.161	0.171	0.175	0.179	0.183	0.187	0.190	0.200
July	0.145	0.147	0.147	0.143	0.147	0.152	0.154	0.164	0.168	0.172	0.177	0.180	0.184	0.194
Aug	0.140	0.142	0.141	0.138	0.142	0.147	0.149	0.159	0.163	0.167	0.172	0.175	0.179	0.189
Sep	0.135	0.137	0.136	0.133	0.137	0.142	0.144	0.154	0.158	0.162	0.167	0.170	0.174	0.183
Oct	0.131	0.133	0.132	0.129	0.133	0.138	0.140	0.150	0.154	0.158	0.163	0.166	0.170	0.179
Nov	0.127	0.129	0.128	0.125	0.129	0.134	0.136	0.146	0.150	0.154	0.159	0.162	0.166	0.175
Dec	0.124	0.126	0.125	0.122	0.126	0.131	0.133	0.143	0.147	0.151	0.155	0.159	0.163	0.172
Jan 84	0.125	0.127	0.126	0.123	0.127	0.132	0.134	0.144	0.148	0.152	0.156	0.160	0.164	0.173
Feb	0.120	0.122	0.122	0.118	0.122	0.127	0.129	0.139	0.143	0.147	0.151	0.155	0.159	0.168
Mar	0.116	0.119	0.118	0.115	0.119	0.124	0.126	0.136	0.140	0.144	0.148	0.152	0.156	0.165
Apr	0.102	0.104	0.104	0.100	0.104	0.109	0.111	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.137	0.141	0.150
May	0.098	0.100	0.099	0.096	0.099	0.105	0.107	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.137	0.146
June	0.095	0.097	0.096	0.093	0.097	0.102	0.104	0.114	0.118	0.122	0.126	0.130	0.134	0.144
July	0.096	0.098	0.098	0.094	0.098	0.103	0.105	0.115	0.119	0.123	0.127	0.131	0.135	0.143
Aug	0.096	0.098	0.087	0.094	0.098	0.103	0.105	0.115	0.119	0.123	0.127	0.131	0.135	0.143
Sep	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.142
Oct	0.097	0.099	0.098	0.095	0.099	0.104	0.106	0.116	0.120	0.124	0.128	0.132	0.136	0.145
Nov	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Dec	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Jan 85	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Feb	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Mar	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Apr	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
May	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
June	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
July	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Aug	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Sep	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Oct	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Nov	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Dec	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Jan 86	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Feb	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Mar	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Apr	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
May	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
June	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
July	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Aug	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Sep	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Oct	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Nov	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Dec	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Jan 87	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Feb	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Mar	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Apr	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
May	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
June	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
July	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Aug	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Sep	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Oct	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Nov	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Dec	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Jan 88	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Feb	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Mar	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Apr	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
May	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
June	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
July	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Aug	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Sep	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Oct	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.096	0.101	0.103	0.113	0.117	0.121	0.125	0.129	0.133	0.141
Nov	0.094	0.096	0.095	0.092	0.09									

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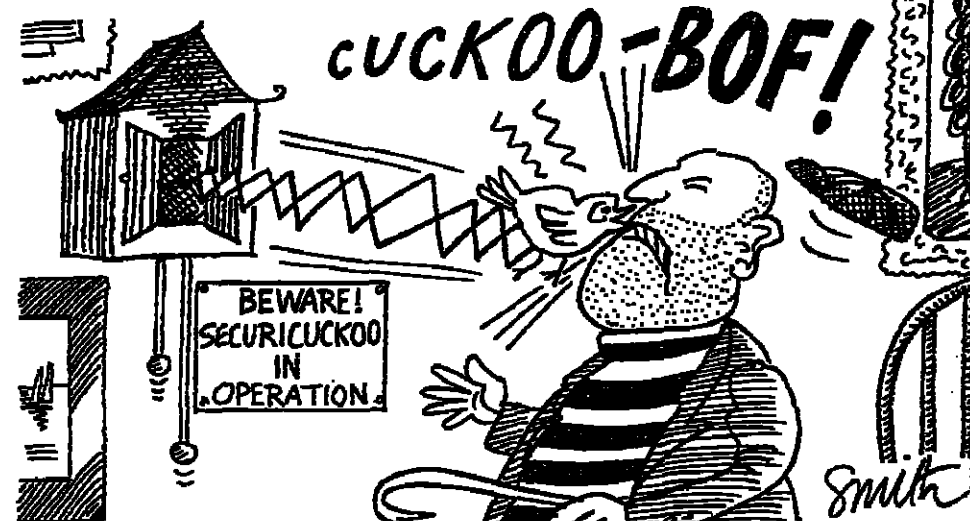
Antique investments can be built up patiently over many years to form a major part of one's nest egg but this can all too easily be eroded if the insurance cover is inadequate. CONAL GREGORY explains

A loss through theft or damage by fire or flood may turn out far worse than at first expected if the proper compensation is not paid.

The starting point is to retain purchase receipts and to have a professional valuation. As the onus is on the investor to prove ownership and current value, it is advisable to have as full a description as possible and to have the valuation undertaken by a recognized authority.

This is best achieved by using one of the two leading trade bodies or a reputable fine art auctioneer. The British Antique Dealers' Association (20 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1BD) is the oldest such organization and can advise which of its 450 members nearest you can undertake valuations. The London and Provincial Antique Dealers' Association (3 Cheval Place, London SW7 1EW) can help similarly.

If the antiques are primarily in one speciality, it is advisable to have the valuation by an expert in that field. Musical instruments, for instance, can be valued by J. and A. Beare (7 Broadwick Street, London W1V 1FT), icons and paintings by Maria Andipa (162 Walton Street, London SW3 2JL), clocks by G.E. Marsh (32a The Square, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 9EX), jewellery and silver by Chris-



topher Warner (15 Princes Street, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 1NG), and porcelain by Pamela Rowan (High Street, Blockley, Gloucestershire GL56 9ET).

The major auctioneers will also arrange valuations. Sotheby's has a £50 minimum fee for a written valuation for items brought to its salerooms or regional offices in London, Chester or Billingshurst, West Sussex. Where visits by its experts are required, the minimum fee is £70 plus expenses and VAT.

Photographs of antiques to assess the premium as well as to establish any subsequent claim. They also assist the police if there is a theft. Peter

Photos in the bank for extra security

Rich, of Rich Industrial Insurance Brokers' fine arts division, recommends photographs to be submitted with valuations, particularly with antiques such as diamond rings.

Photo Security Ltd (8 Pitt Street, London W8 4NX) undertakes to make a record of your home and lodge a set of the photographs in bank vaults for extra security.

Sheila Peczenik, of Photo Security, says a burglary occurs on average once every 66 seconds in Britain. Her company will produce transparencies that can help arbitrators in the event of a claim. It also provides stickers to warn thieves that premises and contents have been photographed for police identification.

Some companies will undertake to video antiques, which again assists both insurers and the police.

The crime prevention officer at your nearest police headquarters will undertake a free security inspection and recommend additional measures. Some insurance companies will give a discount if this is taken up.

Furthermore, if the total value of the antiques to be insured comes to above a certain sum — such as above £25,000 in London and major cities and above £45,000 elsewhere — insurers may insist on the installation of alarms before accepting liability. They may also require such an

alarm system to be linked to a police station.

For expert advice on insuring antiques, it is advisable to consult a specialist broker. He may use one of the composite insurance companies but watch for two limits: a single item restriction of probably 10 per cent for one antique or collection and 25 per cent overall. He is, therefore, more likely to place the business with a specialist, such as a Lloyd's underwriter or a company such as Star Assurance.

Star Assurance, established in 1977 and specializing since 1981 in fine art and antiques, is part of Eagle Star Insurance. It is based at 1 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8BE. Sue Gwynne, its manager, says normally all items have to be specified. The minimum premium is £60 for at least £25,000 cover.

Although some insurers keep house contents adjusted by reference to the Retail Price Index, antiques can rise, or fall, disproportionately. Mrs Gwynne says revaluations should be considered every two to three years, not necessarily with the first expert

Diane Jenkins, of Thomas R. Miller and Son (Dawson House, 5 Jewry Street, London EC3N 2EX), points as a specialist broker to the rapid increase in clock prices and Impressionist paintings in the past five years.

Few antiques portfolios are kept fully in line with current values, so there is a danger that, in the event of a claim, the insurer may point to the under-insurance as a reason to scale down the claim.

A good broker will advise on removing any "pairs or sets" clause, although it is frequently a feature of Lloyd's policies. This can be removed, according to Geoffrey Sneath, managing director of Sneath, Kent and Stuart (Insurance Brokers), based at Dorrieston House, 21 Earl Street, London EC2A 2AL.

The clause means that if one piece in a collection — say, of Georgian glass or fine porcelain — is damaged, the insurers will pay for the item to be expertly mended but will not compensate for any loss to the total collection.

If there should be disagreement, consult a loss assessor on the advice of your broker. Insurance rates for antiques

vary not only with the location but also on the spread of value and security devices in place.

Cover for paintings varies from 30p to 40p per £100 insured but there is a more marked spread for pottery and porcelain. Thomas R. Miller quotes 1.5 per cent in London and 1 per cent elsewhere. By comparison, Sneath, Kent and Stuart suggest 0.35 per cent for the UK as a whole, and Star Assurance 0.3 per cent and 0.35 per cent, increasing to 1.3 and 1.35 per cent with accidental breakage included.

Antique furniture can be covered by Star Assurance for 30p per £100 for non-London and 35p in London and other major cities. Others quote 45p-50p for country and £1.30-£1.50 for higher-risk areas.

Longcase clocks, often called grandfather clocks, come into the antique furniture group, but more easily movable items such as carriage clocks are slightly higher rated, such as 45p by Star Assurance.

Jewellery has the highest rating

Antique silver and gold varies in its cover with some insurers specifying that it cannot be taken out of the home and that cover is for forced entry. Generally, the rates are 65p-70p per £100 cover for non-London and £1.37-£1.75 in the capital and large cities.

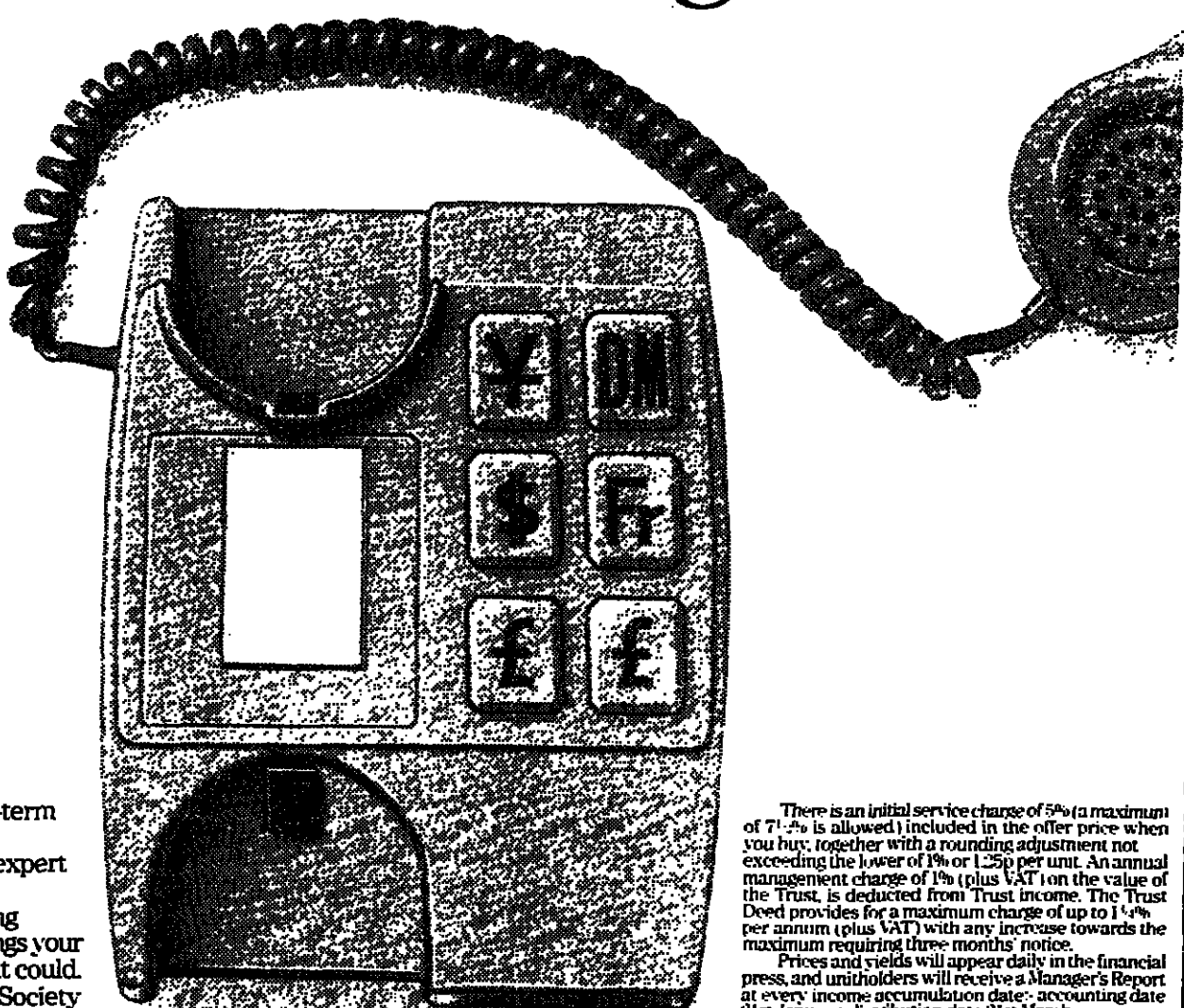
Jewellery is the highest rated of antiques. Thomas R. Miller quotes 1 per cent for country and 3 per cent in London, which allows it to be taken anywhere in the UK. Sneath, Kent and Stuart also suggests rates of 1 per cent and 3 per cent respectively with a sixfold regional variation. Star Assurance declines to quote.

Final tip: encourage an "agreed value" clause in your policy.

Other specialist brokers recommended by The British Insurance Brokers' Association are: Burgoyne Alford Ltd, 32-40 North Street, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1RQ (0306 76101); Broad Street Insurance Services, Ludgate House, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4M 2AB (01-353 0482); Bolton Corder, Bolton House, 56-58 Parkstone Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 2PH (0202 765050).

STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT

Why you should invest at least £1000 in the Standard Life Managed Trust.



The reason is steady long-term capital growth, professionally managed by Standard Life's expert investment team.

Earning interest in a Building Society, a bank or National Savings your money isn't growing as fast as it could.

£1000 invested in a Building Society in the past year has only grown by £72.

£1000 invested on May 1st 1986 in the Standard Life Managed Trust would now be worth £1167 (1/5/87).

That's over double the Building Society rate of growth and it's growth that comes with the security provided by one of the country's largest and most respected institutional investors with over £12 billion of assets under management.

Now is the time to inject the vital element of growth into your capital by investing in the Standard Life Managed Trust.

WIDE SPREAD ACTIVE MANAGEMENT

The Trusts' objective is capital growth from an actively managed portfolio of investments, switching between specific sectors and geographic areas.

The Trust at present has a bias to the U.K. stock market but it will spread your investment world-wide over a large portfolio of stocks and shares selected for growth. That means Standard Life experts monitor the shares' performance on a day to day basis and will change the underlying investment mix as their view of the potential of world markets changes. The more successful they are, the more the value of your units rises and the greater your long-term growth.

PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED

The skill of the management team and the size and spread of the portfolio should protect you from sudden fluctuations in share prices and markets. And you suffer none of the worry of having to decide yourself when to move from one market to another, as you would with a specialist Unit Trust.

THE GROWTH STARTS HERE

You can invest in The Standard Life Managed Trust simply by filling in the application form below and posting it to us with your cheque, or simply phone Standard Life between 9am and 5pm on any business day on FREEPHONE 0800 393777.

NOTES: the value of units in any Unit Trust can go down as well as up. You should regard your investment as a medium to long term one.

You can normally buy units on any Stock Exchange dealing day. The minimum first investment is £1000, after which you can make further investments of £500 or more at any time.

Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within 28 days of payment. To sell units endorse your certificate and send it to the managers; payment based on the ruling bid price will normally be made within seven working days.

The Trust issues only Accumulation Units, in one is automatically reinvested, and is reflected in the price of the units.

There is an initial service charge of 5% (a maximum of 7% is allowed) included in the offer price when you buy, together with a rounding adjustment not exceeding the lower of 1% or 1.25p per unit. An annual management charge of 1% (plus VAT) on the value of the Trust, is deducted from Trust income. The Trust Deed provides for a maximum charge of up to 1.4% per annum (plus VAT) with any increase towards the maximum requiring three months' notice.

Prices and yields will appear daily in the financial press, and unitholders will receive a Manager's Report at every income accumulation date — accounting date 31st January, distribution date 31st March.

The Trust Deed gives the Managers the right to invest in certain secondary markets and traded options, subject to Department of Trade rules.

The Managed Trust is an authorised Unit Trust, constituted by Trust Deed. The Bank of Scotland is Trustee. The Managers are Standard Life Trust Management, PO Box 62, 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2NZ.

To: Standard Life Trust Management, PO Box 178, 5-15 Thistle Street, Edinburgh EH2 1RA.

I enclose a cheque for £ (minimum investment £1000) payable to Standard Life Trust Management, for investment in accumulation units in The Standard Life Managed Trust at the offer price, ruling on the day of receipt of this application by the Managers.

Note: The offer is made available to residents in the Republic of Ireland.

Surname (Mr, Mrs, Miss) _____

First Name(s) _____

Address _____

Signature(s) _____

Name of insurance adviser (if any) _____

Date _____

I am over 18 years of age. TS 21

THE MANAGED TRUST FROM

Standard Life

FOR ALL OF YOUR LIFE

Katie's granny has just helped her buy her first car.

Deposit Bonds offer a premium rate of interest (10.5% p.a. from 23 May) added each year with no tax taken off.

So because Katie doesn't pay tax and the bonds weren't given by her parents, she keeps all the interest.

Now, thanks to her granny, Katie will get a really useful capital sum when she's older.

Ask at your post office for a leaflet and an application form. Or make a free call on 0800 100 100 and we'll send them to you.

DEPOSIT BONDS

NATIONAL SAVINGS

FAMILY MONEY/9

Don't be dogged by developers' deadlines

The show house on a new Home Counties estate caught Mark Layder's eye — so he snapped it up on the Sunday he looked round. He signed a reservation form and paid a £100 deposit. The next day he gave instructions to a solicitor.

There was just one catch. He had to exchange contracts within four weeks, or the developers had the right to put the house back on the market. And it was another week before his solicitor received the details needed to start a local authority search.

After 28 days Mr Layder had only a verbal assurance of a mortgage from his building society, and his solicitor had not been able to complete inquiries. Mr Layder was faced not only with losing his reservation deposit, but with a £4,400 increase in the price. He claims he was informed by the sales office that the £51,550 house was now back on the market at £55,950.

His solicitor kicked up a fuss. Finally, Mr Layder got his house at the original price. Mr Layder, a motor trade consultant, comments: "I had to take time out of my business to be ready in time. It was like something out of M15. I have never dealt under

David Eden, Wimpey's sales director, says his company normally gives six weeks for exchange of contracts but this can vary according to the development and the buyer's circumstances. Wimpey, too, asks for a £100 deposit, with half refundable. Mr Eden says: "The buyer may have a house to sell, and we would allow a longer period, or we may tighten up if a development is selling strongly."

He adds: "We have got to put a time limit to inject a sense of urgency for all concerned."

● If you want to buy a new property, there are steps you should take to avoid fixing a deadline you cannot meet.

Solicitors
Find a solicitor before you find the property. Find out the seller's solicitor when you sign the reservation so that your solicitor can chase him up from the start. As soon as you have reserved a house, give your solicitor the details, including any reference numbers. Make sure he is aware that you are working to a deadline, and what that deadline is. Keep your solicitor fully informed.

Mortgage
Get your building society or bank lined up before you go house-hunting. You should be able to get an idea of the amount you can borrow, given your earnings and commitments, and you may be able to get a guarantee. Get your formal application in as soon as you reserve a house and tell the building society about the deadline.

Reservation
Read the whole form before signing. Be suspicious if the developer tries to hustle you

A name to contact at the developers

before you have scrutinized the small print. If in doubt, ask questions. In particular, you need to know how much the deposit is and whether it is refundable, how long you have to exchange contracts and what happens if you fail to meet the deadline. Make sure you have the name of the person at the developers to contact in case of difficulties. Asking for someone by name is always more effective than explaining to a switchboard.

General
If necessary, hassle solicitors, building societies or developers to meet your deadline. You have a lot of money at stake. It is worth checking after two or three weeks that all is well. If the developer tries to introduce new terms, tell your solicitor to protest. Even if you miss the deadline and the developer acts within his rights, he may be willing to accommodate you if your solicitor protests for you.

Rodney Hobson

Bargains to drive abroad

TRAVEL

Motorists should shop around for green card cover, says CONAL GREGORY

You need a green card to drive your car abroad. The card, technically known as the International Motor Insurance Certificate, is usually supplied through your insurance broker or directly from the insurer's motor department.

If you are likely to use a green card, take this into account before deciding on your car insurer because several offer special rates. The card extends insurance cover on a scale similar to your cover in the UK, but it is possible to opt for fully comprehensive when abroad even when your normal policy is only for third party, fire and theft.

Several firms offer com-

plimentary green card cover. TSB Insurance Services, in conjunction with Royal Insurance, offers free cover in Europe for drivers aged 21 to 74 who are in good health, have three years' no-claims bonus and have no motoring disqualifications or convictions in the previous three years or any prosecutions pending, excluding parking offences and up to two speeding convictions.

San Alliance offers 30 days' free green card cover to members of the Institute of Advanced Motorists.

The AA offers free cover for three months if you insure through it with either Guardian Royal Exchange or Provincial Insurance. Free cover is also available through the AA with Municipal General Insurance but it is restricted to the first green card issued in any one year.

You must state which countries you intend to visit. Greece

is not included in the same rate with many insurers. The AA declines to quote for Morocco and charges 50 per cent extra for drivers to East Germany, Yugoslavia, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey. The AA also imposes a £50 excess on fully comprehensive policies to these destinations.

Drivers going to Spain must also take out a Spanish liability bond. This guarantees to pay a deposit of usually £1,000 (it is £2,000 with the TSB) if you are detained, to cover possible claims for damage or fines, even though the accident was in no way your fault.

Most companies offering green cards grant half bonds for Spain at an extra charge of £2 to £3 extra.

It is also important to secure an international driving licence, which both the AA and RAC provides at £2.50, whether you are a member or

not. In Italy and Spain it is advisable to take a translation of your driving licence, which the motoring organizations can supply. A green card is not usually needed in the Irish republic or the Channel Islands.

Last-minute travellers may be able to insure with the motoring organizations at the ports, such as Dover.

The normal time covered by a green card is up to three months. If you intend to go for longer, ask for an overseas insurance policy.

A key element when considering which insurer to use is the related support in the event of accident or breakdown. Provincial Insurance provides at no extra cost a breakdown recovery scheme through Gess Assistance, which includes towing, spare parts and the facility to repatriate drivers and passengers.

Gess provides a chauffeur if the sole driver is ill. Legal claims are handled and medical expenses up to £10,000 are provided on a 24-hour basis. The vehicle must be under 10 years old. If it is older, only accident cover is provided.

The RAC has its own European Assistance, costing £50 for up to 10 days and £33.50 up to 31 days, reduced by £2.50 for RAC members. The extra charge for cars more than 10 years old is £15 and the supplement is £8 for trailers or towed caravans.

GREEN CARD COVER IN WESTERN EUROPE

Insurance company	car size category	Up to 17 days		Up to one month		Extra months	
		comprehensive	non-comp	comprehensive	non-comp	comprehensive	non-comp
AA	up to 1600cc	12	7.50	16	9	10	6
	1601-2999cc	15	9	17.50	12	12	8
Onon	up to 1600cc	14	9	18	11	12	8
	1601-2999cc	16	10	20	14	15	11
Provincial	Groups 1-4	15	10	20	14	18	12
	Groups 5-6	21	16	28	20	23	18
RAC	Regardless of group	10	8	plus £5 a week after 17 days for comprehensive plus £4 a week after 17 days for non-comprehensive			

PURE PROFIT!

Would you prefer to invest in companies which are committed to the production or sale of safe products, to environmental protection, to occupational health and to sound staff relations? And would you expect those companies to provide you with worthwhile profits?

Research shows that socially responsible companies are often also perceptive of business opportunities — their profits can out-perform others, their track records show that ethical investment can be highly profitable too.

Now you can invest for profit — and with a clear conscience — through a new service from Lancashire and Yorkshire Portfolio Management Limited.

It's called the FAIR SHARES PORTFOLIO.

To the best of our knowledge, we will not invest on your behalf in any companies which:

- Engage in business with oppressive regimes
- Manufacture weapons or weapons systems
- Conduct any kinds of experiments on animals (such as testing cosmetics)
- Are involved in the inhumane treatment or unnecessary killing of animals (such as the fur trade)
- Have more than 10% of their business attributable to brewing or distilling of alcoholic drinks, the growing, processing, packaging or sale of tobacco products, or in casinos, betting shops or other forms of gambling.

For full details, please return the coupon or phone us on (01) 377 2727. (9 a.m. - 6 p.m. weekdays/10 a.m. - 2 p.m. weekends).

LANCASHIRE & YORKSHIRE

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Lancashire & Yorkshire Portfolio Management Limited
62-64 Arbury Lane, London E1 7LS
Please send me, without obligation, full details of your

FAIR SHARES PORTFOLIO

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You could have turned

£5,000 into

£42,221

in just ten years.

School Fees

Invest for your children's future

Like so many parents, you may well feel that the best possible future for your children will be secured through independent education. If you are prepared to make this investment, you will need professional advice.

Fraser Marr are experts in School Fees Planning and will arrange a plan to suit your precise requirements. You may invest a lump sum, regularly out of income or a combination of the two.

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We provide a personal and confidential service which is entirely free of charge. Why not give your children the education they deserve? Phone us for full details or send the coupon NOW.

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MANCHESTER: John Vaughan - 061-815 2927.

TT 23/87

To: FRASER MARR Financial Services Ltd.,
Kingsbourne House, 229-231 High Holborn, London WC1V 7DA.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone home _____ office _____
Parents' ages _____ Children's ages _____
Current fees if known Day £ _____ Boarding £ _____
Preferred method of payment: Lump sum ☐ Income ☐ Both ☐

FRASER MARR
Fraser Marr Financial Services Ltd.
is a subsidiary of Citicorp Abroad Group plc.

HERE'S THE PROOF

Published figures prove that £5,000 invested in our 'Capital Builder Account' just ten years ago would today be worth a massive £42,221! And that means £30,913 more than a typical 'High Street' interest only account would have given you!

The 'Capital Builder Account' figures are those of the Royal Life Equity Growth Trust, assuming all net income is re-invested and based on unit purchase and sale prices (offer to bid basis). National Savings growth is based on re-investment of all interest earned, after basic rate tax. The figures show performance of £5,000 invested between 1/5/77 and 1/5/87.

What's more, this 'portfolio' of shares is constantly monitored and managed on your behalf by a highly professional team of financial investment experts. And as the value of the shares moves, the value of your 'units' moves with them. It's as simple as that.

Of course, since the investment is linked to stocks and shares, the value of units can fall as well as rise, and past performance is not necessarily a guarantee of the future. However, the figures on the chart above speak for themselves.

Cash when you need it

With the 'Capital Builder Account', you're free to cash in all or part of your investment at any time you choose. Nevertheless, for maximum gain you are advised to view the 'Capital Builder Account' as a long-term investment, as withdrawals will reduce your capital in the fund.

The answer, perhaps, is to keep a little in your ordinary savings account — for those everyday needs and opportunities — and invest the remainder where it can work harder for you.

Tax Benefits Too!

Another major advantage of this type of investment is that it offers you substantial tax benefits. For example, if you need extra money at any time, you can readily cash in all or part of your investment. The advantages for investors in stocks and shares (including the 'Capital Builder Account') currently allow you to draw up to £6,600 of your total capital gain each tax year (from all sources) completely free of tax. And there's NO income tax to pay either because the Inland Revenue regards your profit as capital growth, not income.

Proven growth performance

Look at the chart. Based on published figures, it proves that £5,000 invested in the 'Capital Builder Account' only 10 years ago... would today be worth a massive £42,221!

Yes, left alone in a typical 'High Street' savings or deposit account — even one offering higher interest — it would not be worth anything like as much. For example, in a National Savings Investment Account, it would be worth a mere £11,308. So if you had invested £5,000 in the 'Capital Builder Account' 10 years ago, you would be £30,913 better off!

How the 'Capital Builder Account' works

Your money is directly invested along with that of many other savers like yourself, in the Royal Life Equity Growth Trust... a unit trust which aims to give you good steady growth with maximum protection by purchasing stocks and shares of well-run British companies.

The trust is divided into thousands of individual segments, or 'units', and your money buys a certain number of units, depending on the value, or price when you invest.

The benefit of 'spreading' your investment

A major advantage is that your investment isn't confined to just a few companies. Instead, your money is spread over a broad range of company shares, representing some of the best investment opportunities available — perhaps including British Telecom and British Gas, and other locations that you may have missed out on.

Royal Life
Fund Management Ltd
Head Office, New Hall Place, Old Hall Street, Liverpool L69 3HS.

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Head Office, New Hall Place, Old Hall Street, Liverpool L69 3HS.

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NO OBLIGATION - NO SIGNATURE - SEND NO MONEY
YES Please send me full details of the 'Capital Builder Account' and YES how it can make my money work harder for me. I understand I am under no obligation, and no salesman will call.

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms) _____
First Name(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
CGQA

Broker's Name (if any) _____
Please note that the minimum investment is £250.

POST TODAY WITHOUT A STAMP TO:
'Capital Builder Account',
Royal Life Fund Management,
FREEPOST, Peterborough PE3 8BR.

Daily Telegraph 28.2.87

Saints plan goes marching on

ITTING out at the time of the year, the Scottish American Investment Company (SAIC) has announced its plan to launch a new fund, the Saints Personal Pension Plan, in the autumn.

Jack Shaw, chairman of the company, said: "The biggest advantage of the Saints Personal Pension Plan is that it allows investors to spread their investments over a period of up to 10 years. This means that the value of the investment will grow over time, and the investor will be able to take advantage of the compound interest effect."

The new fund is expected to be launched in the autumn, and will be available to investors in the UK and Ireland. It will be managed by the company's investment team, which has a track record of successful investments in the UK and overseas markets.

Scottishman 12.2.87

Scottish American surging

LAST year's highly successful Scottish American Investment Company (SAIC) has announced its plan to launch a new fund, the Saints Personal Pension Plan, in the autumn.

The company's investment team, which has a track record of successful investments in the UK and overseas markets, is expected to manage the new fund. The fund is expected to be launched in the autumn, and will be available to investors in the UK and Ireland.

Daily Mail 7.1.87

How the Saints score for savers

WALLS the new year, the Scottish American Investment Company (SAIC) has announced its plan to launch a new fund, the Saints Personal Pension Plan, in the autumn.

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Financial Times 28.2.87

Saintly savings schemes

"MORE PEP than Port" is the slogan used by the Scottish American Investment Company (SAIC) to promote its new fund, the Saints Personal Pension Plan, in the autumn.

The company's investment team, which has a track record of successful investments in the UK and overseas markets, is expected to manage the new fund. The fund is expected to be launched in the autumn, and will be available to investors in the UK and Ireland.

Saints will compete for savers' cash

Glasgow Herald 19.12.86

The Saints Savings Scheme. Six of our recent converts.

The Saints Savings Scheme makes it easier for small investors to acquire shares in The Scottish American Investment Company (familiarily known as Saints).

Through the Scheme you can acquire shares in an international portfolio which includes unquoted shares and also take advantage of the remarkable discount on investment trust shares.

Purchase costs are only 0.2% (plus 50p Stamp Duty per £100 or part thereof).

If you would like to know more about the

Saints Savings Scheme, or The Saints Personal Pension Plan, return the completed coupon to us.

Saints

The Scottish American Investment Company PLC.

Stewart & Company Investment Managers, 45 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4HW. Tel: 031-226 3271.

For details of the Saints Savings Scheme, or The Saints Personal Pension Plan, for self-employed individuals, please contact Stewart & Company.

Address: _____
Postcode: _____

Portfolio - Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

Share	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Weekly
1	+2	+5	+7	+4	+5		
2	+6	+2	+5	+2	+5		
3	+5	+3	+4	+3	+8		
4	+4	+4	+3	+5	+6		
5	+4	+4	+6	+3	+6		
6	+3	+3	+3	+2	+6		
7	+7	+1	+5	+5	+5		
8	+4	+2	+4	+3	+7		
9	+5	+2	+5	+5	+5		
10	+3	+4	+6	+5	+4		
11	+5	+3	+3	+3	+6		
12	+3	+3	+5	+2	+7		
13	+2	+4	+4	+6	+5		
14	+6	+1	+3	+3	+7		
15	+6	+2	+6	+2	+4		
16	+5	+3	+4	+3	+6		
17	+2	+6	+5	+3	+5		
18	+4	+3	+3	+5	+7		
19	+5	+2	+2	+4	+5		
20	+7	+3	+5	+4	+5		
21	+3	+2	+6	+5	+4		
22	+4	+2	+3	+6	+4		
23	+4	+1	+5	+6	+7		
24	+1	+4	+7	+4	+5		
25	+3	+3	+3	+3	+5		
26	+3	+4	+3	+4	+6		
27	+4	+6	+6	+4	+5		
28	+3	+2	+4	+1	+5		
29	+5	+2	+3	+5	+6		
30	+3	+4	+4	+5	+5		
31	+5	+2	+5	+2	+4		
32	+2	+4	+4	+4	+4		
33	+5	+2	+5	+2	+6		
34	+1	+3	+6	+3	+7		
35	+7	+1	+6	+8	+4		
36	+6	+4	+2	+5	+8		
37	+3	+5	+2	+6	+4		
38	+6	+3	+4	+5	+7		
39	+4	+6	+7	+4	+5		
40	+2	+4	+3	+3	+8		
41	+2	+4	+8	+8	+7		
42	+5	+1	+5	+8	+4		
43	+5	+4	+2	+3	+5		
44	+3	+4	+3	+3	+8		

FAMILY MONEY/10

Dumenil ventures into Italy

Dumenil Unit Trust Management Ltd, the UK subsidiary of the French Securities house, Dumenil-Leblanc, has today launched the first UK-authorized unit trust investing exclusively in the Italian market. It is also introducing a Swiss fund and a West German fund, increasing the number of its unit trusts to seven.

As with the other Dumenil funds, the investment objective is capital growth. Every fund will be managed by Dumenil Unit Trust Managers in London, receiving guidance from its investment advisers in the various countries.

The managing director, Christopher Fawcett, finds it

ally attractive because of the continuing growth in corporate earnings. The sectors he favours for the initial portfolio are cement, insurance, paper and publishing and mechanics. There will also be some exposure to retailing, finance, textiles, chemicals and banks.

The initial investment in any of the three funds is £1,000, and subsequent additions of £250 or more can be made. There is an initial 5.25 per cent charge, and the annual management fee is 1.25 per cent. Units are priced at £1 each during the offer period, which ends on June 12.



Amanda Pardoe Christopher Fawcett: growth

Law Report May 23 1987 Court of Appeal

Conviction quashed because police 'conned' defendant

Regina v Mason (Carl)

Before Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Mansfield and Mr Justice Henry.

[Judgment May 21] Section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, which set out a trial judge's power to exclude unfair evidence, was applied to a confession made by a defendant in a police interview when the defendant was under the influence of a drug.

The Court of Appeal held that the confession was inadmissible because the police had used a trick to obtain it. The defendant had been told that he was being interviewed by a police officer, but in fact he was being interviewed by a police officer who was acting as a solicitor.

The appeal was brought on a certificate of the trial judge that a point of law was involved. The point of law was whether the confession was inadmissible because the police had used a trick to obtain it.

Section 76 provides that "a confession made by an accused person may be given in evidence against him" but the court was not to allow it to be given in evidence if it was or might have been obtained from him by oppression or circumstances which were likely to render it unreliable.

Section 78 provides: "In any proceedings the court may refuse to allow evidence on which the prosecution proposes to rely to be given if it appears to the court that, having regard to all the circumstances, including the circumstances in which the evidence was obtained, the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it."

Mr C. J. Knox, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant, Mr R. P. Lowden for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said that on the evidence the appeal was without merit but the point of law certified was of real substance.

The car belonged to a Mr Askew and early one morning last July was damaged by fire caused by inflammable liquid thrown against the car and ignited. There had been bad feelings between the appellant and Mr Askew.

Mr Askew woke up. He saw nobody near the car. He put out the fire. The police came to the scene and about the car found a lot of broken bottle glass, in which a combination of petrol and paint thinner had been used.

About 12 hours later the police saw the appellant, who denied being involved in setting fire to the car. They arrested him nine days later.

On arrest they had no evidence to associate him with the cause of the fire. However, before the arrest police officers decided to interview him and to tell the appellant about it as

though it was in their possession. They decided to tell him that his fingerprint had been found at the scene.

Detective Constable Michael Andrew, Ganton said, in evidence, "DC Walton and I set out deliberately to make the defendant believe we had a fingerprint on some of the glass fragments from the bottle that was used to perpetrate this crime. I agreed with the DC to this play-acting and it was a trick. The bottle, or the fragments of it, had not even been sent for fingerprint testing at that stage. We set about 'conning' the defendant. We had a suspicion, but only a suspicion, against him and we realised that he needed more proof... I felt the only way to get the truth from him was to do this."

Having been told by the police that they had found his fingerprint on a bottle, the appellant told them a version of what had happened. The solicitor asked DC Ganton for confirmation of the fact that the police had found a fingerprint on the glass. He confirmed it.

That was another lie. DC Ganton said: "My motive was because if the defendant had had nothing to do with this glass bottle there was no way he would produce a confession. If he knew very well he had handled the bottle and been active in the preparation, of course, he would begin to doubt himself and whether or not he was going to be discovered."

The solicitor, influenced without doubt by what the police had told him about the fingerprint, advised the appellant to answer the questions by the police and to give his explanation of any involvement he had in the affair.

Before the end of the prosecution case, when the confession was sought to be put in evidence, objection to its admissibility was made by Mr Knox. The judge heard argument in the jury's absence and some evidence from the police about how the confession had been obtained.

The judge stated what he believed to be the effect of sections 76 and 78 and went on to say: "I have no doubt that this defendant was well aware of his right to remain silent and could have remained silent, with his solicitor being present, had he so chosen that alternative. But he did not choose that alternative; he chose to give the interview; listen to the questions and decide individually which questions he was going to answer. In fact he answered all of them. I see nothing in his doing this which adversely affects the fairness of the proceedings."

Mr Knox contended that the judge exercised his discretion wrongly in admitting the evidence of the confession.

Mr Lowden argued that the judge undoubtedly had a discretion - section 76 included the word "may" - and in exercising it took account of all matters necessary for him to take into account and did not give thought to any matter which he was disabled from

taking into consideration in coming to his conclusion.

Mr Lowden also submitted that there was no authority for the proposition that section 78 referred to confessions and admissions were specially dealt with in section 76.

He submitted that it was not Parliament's intention to read section 78 as though the word "evidence" included "evidence of confessions and admissions".

His Lordship said that there was no reason to put that extremely strained construction on the plain words of section 78. The only proper construction was that the word "evidence" included all the evidence which might be introduced into a trial, whether by the prosecution or in certain circumstances, by the defence.

Thus it was that, regardless whether the admission of a confession ought to be considered under section 76, a trial judge had a discretion to deal with admissibility of a confession under section 78. Section 78 did no more than to restate the power of a judge at common law before the 1984 Act was passed.

That power gave the judge a complete discretion whether in the interests of the fairness of the trial he would permit the prosecution to introduce evidence sought to be relied on, especially evidence of a confession or admission.

In the present case it was apparent that the police practised a deceit not only on the appellant, which was bad enough, but also on the solicitor whose duty it was to advise. They hoodwinked in effect both solicitor and client. That was a most reprehensible thing to do by any standards of conduct.

However, their Lordships had not reached their decision by regard to misbehaviour of a serious kind. Their Lordships' court was not a place to discipline the police. It was a place which applied strictly the law.

The law was that a trial judge had a complete discretion, to be exercised on the right principles, whether or not he would admit any kind of evidence sought to be relied on in the interests of the defendant's having a fair trial. That the judge realized that was clearly shown by his ruling.

The only question was whether, having regard to the undisputed facts about how the police behaved, he exercised his discretion correctly.

He had not done so because he had omitted a vital factor, namely, the deceit practised on the appellant's solicitor. Had the judge included that in his consideration he would have been driven to the opposite conclusion, namely, that the confession should be kept out and the jury not be permitted to hear it.

If that had been done an acquittal would have followed because there was no other evidence in the prosecution's possession. The conviction had to be quashed.

Before starting with the case and despite what had been said about the role of the court in relation to disciplining the police, their Lordships hoped never again to hear of a deceit such as the present being practised on an accused person and still less on a solicitor bound to advise.

The appellant was lucky. Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Power of court to grant bail in immigration cases

In re Turkoglu

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Lord Justice Bingham.

[Judgment May 19] The Court of Appeal clarified the position as to the powers of courts to grant bail in immigration cases by allowing an appeal by Mr Yakup Turkoglu against the refusal of Mr Justice McCowan on April 29 to grant him bail pending his appeal against a refusal to grant judicial review of a decision of an immigration officer refusing him leave to enter the United Kingdom.

Mr Indra Kulatilake for the applicant, Miss Alison Foster for the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

His Lordship had been wrong in *In re Dillon* (*The Times*, January 28, 1987) since their Lordships had not considered the effect of section 16 of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

Where an application for judicial review was pending and a judge either granted or refused bail he was making an order in proceedings of which he was properly seized and there would be a right of appeal.

In summary, one could not apply to the High Court for bail unless it was seized of some sort of proceedings - leave to apply for judicial review or the substantive application - in which case the High Court could grant or refuse bail.

If leave to apply was granted then it was of course immediate in that the application became merged with the substantive application, so there was a continuous underlying proceeding of which the High Court was seized, and no problem arose.

If the application for leave to apply was adjourned, the High Court was still seized of an application and it could refuse or grant leave to appeal, and there would be a right to appeal

to the Court of Appeal against that order.

If leave to apply had been refused then at that stage the High Court judge could not grant bail as the order refusing leave to apply was not appealable: see *Lane v Esdaile* (1885) AC 210. Where the case was finished and the decision unappealable, the court was *functus officio* and could do no more. It was different when the decision was appealable, as in the present case.

In relation to the Court of Appeal, it had jurisdiction to entertain a direct appeal in relation to any refusal of bail by the High Court in whatever proceedings it had been made: section 16. In addition it had inherent jurisdiction to grant bail in proceedings originating in practice a renewed application for leave to apply for judicial review.

Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Lord Justice Bingham agreed.

Solicitors: Graham Peries & Co., Hackney; Treasury Solicitor.

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SATURDAY

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

SUNDAY

Roosevelt's Children (Channel 4, 7.30pm) is an attempt to get a fresh angle on world politics by turning to the younger generation of politicians and diplomats during and after the Second World War. There is no narration or presenter, just interviews intercut with film of historic events. The first programme (of four) deals with superpower relations from Roosevelt and Stalin to Reagan and Gorbachev. It is a useful refresher course on the Cold War, though the views of the new young elite, whether from the Soviet Union or the United States, are often remarkably close to those of their seniors.

CHOICE

In Robinson's Country (Channel 4, 8.30pm) Robert Robinson does his flat hat polishes his phrases and starts another series of forays into the West of England. His subject tonight is a bizarre triple killing, involving two brothers and a sister, at a remote farmhouse in Devon. It is 12 years since the tragedy, but to the current farmer, who did not even know them, the presence of the trio is still a reality. Often accused of hogging the lens, Robinson is here content to let the story unfold for itself.

Peter Waymark



Robert Robinson takes the murder trail in the first of a new series of Robinson Country (Channel 4, 8.30pm)



Timothy West, Prunella Scales, and Dinsdale Landen in Joe Orton's *What the Butler Saw* (BBC2, 7.45pm)

CHOICE

In the discussion of Joe Orton's murky lifestyle and sordid demise, revived recently by the diaries and Alan Bennett's film, it is often forgotten what a talented writer he was. His last play, *What the Butler Saw* (BBC2, 7.45pm), not only teems with sub-Wildean epigrams but is also a beautifully constructed farce in which the chaos of misunderstanding is perfectly developed and orchestrated. Parity he was sending up the genre, hence the manic dressing and understating characters rushing in and out of doors and the inability of anybody to get hold of the right end of the stick. At the same time he was infusing a classic theatrical form with his own brand of outrageous black humour, which even in the permissive 1980s may still shock those of prim sensibility. Set in a mental home, *What the Butler Saw* is a fast and incest that is both a joyous tilt at the pretensions of psychiatry and also a savage swipe at Orton's pet target, bourgeois hypocrisy. Barry Davis's production combines pace with precision timing and the actors, led by such practised farceurs as Prunella Scales, Timothy West and Dinsdale Landen, relish it to the full.

P.W.

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University. Until 1.30.
- 8.30 Family-Ness. (r) 8.35 Doghouse and the Three Musketeers. (r) 9.00 It's Wicked in Wales 10.37 Weather.
- 10.40 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: (subject to alteration) 10.45 Cricket: England v Pakistan, one-day game at Trent Bridge. 1.00 News. 1.05, 1.35, and 2.05 World Cup Rugby Union: highlights from France v Scotland, Australia v England, Italy v New Zealand, and Romania v Zimbabwe. 1.25, 1.55 and 2.25 Racing from Haydock. 2.35 Football: England v Scotland at Hampden Park. 4.40 Final Score.
- 5.05 News with Debbie Thew. Weather. 5.20 Sport/Regional news.
- 5.25 Oliver Twist. Episode seven and Oliver is left for dead by Bill Sikes. (r) (Ceefax).
- 5.55 SOS Star Awards. Noel Edmonds, chairman of the Stars Organization for Spastics, is joined by Sarah Greene for the presentations to the winners of the eight entertainment categories.
- 6.50 Film: Grease (1978) starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John. Musical about the romance of two students at a high school in California. Directed by Randal Kleser. (Ceefax).
- 8.35 Bob Says Opportunity Knocks. Talent contest.
- 9.25 News and Election 87. Followed by Weather.
- 10.00 Cagney and Lacey. The two lady police officers investigate an organization which promises to get messages to the loved ones using comers who are terminal patients in hospitals. (Ceefax).
- 10.50 Sports Special introduced by Steve Rider. 10.55 Rugby Union: highlights of games involving England and Scotland in the World Cup; 11.55 American Basketball: the NBA play-offs; 12.45 Cricket: the one day game at Trent Bridge between England and Pakistan. 1.00 Football: the best of the action from today's game at Hampden Park between Scotland and England.
- 1.30 Weather.

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University. Until 1.30.
- 2.20 Golf and Cricket. The second round of the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship, introduced by Harry Carpenter from Wentworth. The commentators are Peter Alliss, Clive Clark, Bruce Critchley, and Tony Jacklin; and the 55-overs-a-side match, the second in the best-of-three contest for the Tresco Trophy between England and Pakistan. The commentators at Trent Bridge are Richie Benaud and Ray Illingworth.
- 7.20 NewsView with Debbie Thew and Moira Stuart. Weather.
- 8.00 A Man of Substance. A profile of Kewal Singh Bhullar who arrived in Bradford 35 years ago from the Punjab as a penniless immigrant without a word of English. Today he is the owner of a multi-million pound industry, making him the country's biggest manufacturer of leisure wear.
- 8.35 German Festival Remains. Russell Davies introduces a survey of contemporary culture in East and West Berlin, celebrating the city's 75th anniversary. Film: Chris Petit examines the way the look of Berlin has been transferred to film; and the problems that are posed to filmmakers by the skyline; Performance: Die Töchter Doris, Santara, and Monika Dine, give a flavour of West Berlin's nightclub life; Writing: intellectual café society; Art: from both East and West.
- 9.40 Gaudy Night. A repeat of the last episode of the second episode of the mystery. (Ceefax).
- 10.35 Did You See? Breakfast Time. TV-am, introduced by Steve Rider. The Devil's Disciple, are discussed by Michael Barnatt, Benedict Nightingale, and Katherine Banks.
- 11.15 Film: The Drowning Pool (1975) starring Paul Newman as Lew Harper, a private detective investigating the murder of an anonymous letter blackmailing a former lover by threatening to reveal her past. Directed by Stuart Rosenberg. (r) Ends at 1.55.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.55 TV-am introduced by Gary Chapman. Weather at 6.58; news at 7.00.
- 7.30 Wide Awake Club includes an appearance by the Georgian State Dance Company.
- 9.25 Get Fresh includes visits to Duxford Air Museum; and the 12.55 World of Animation.
- 10.55 Film: Three Cases of Murder (1954) Lord Mountbatten. Puppet adventure series. (r) News with Nicholas Owen. 12.05 Wrestling from Fairfield Hall, Croydon.
- 1.00 Film: Blondie for Victory (1942) starring Victor Mature, Arthur Lake, and Arthur Lake. Vintage American comedy, based on a newspaper's strip cartoon.
- 2.05 News. 2.15 Doctor in the House. Comedy series about a medical school's students.
- 2.45 Gymnastics. Nick Owen introduces action from the European Championships in Moscow. The commentators are Simon Reed and Monica Phelps.
- 5.00 News.
- 5.05 The Cumbles. Show. Madcap comedy sketches.
- 5.35 A.L.F. Comedy series about an alien life form, living in suburban America.
- 6.05 The A-Team. The resourceful quartet come to the aid of a boxer who sees minders want him to throw a fight.
- 7.00 The Birthday Show. Anne Diamond, Benny Green, and Paul Coia, celebrate celebrities' birthdays.
- 7.45 The Price is Right. Game show presented by Leslie Crowther.
- 8.45 News and sport.
- 9.05 C.A.T.S. Eyes. Has Maggie found true love? (Oracle).
- 10.05 The Late Clive James. The first of a new series and the guests are: Barry Humphries and Peter Cook.
- 10.50 LWT News headlines followed by Film: Gallipoli (1981) starring Mel Gibson and Mark Lee. Drama about the ill-fated Anzac First World War campaign and the efforts of two young athletes to join their colleagues. Directed by Peter Weir.
- 12.50 Tina Turner at Devil's Lake. The soul singer performs at the Ontario venue. (r) Ends at 1.55.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 Pets in Particular. Animals, Gerald and What It's Worth (r) 10.20 The Living Body. Puberty. (r) 10.45 The World - A Television History. 1500-1800. (r) 11.15 Mountbatten. (r) 12.15 Isaura the Slave. (r) 12.55 World of Animation.
- 1.05 Film: Three Cases of Murder (1954) Lord Mountbatten. Puppet adventure series. (r) News with Nicholas Owen. 12.05 Wrestling from Fairfield Hall, Croydon.
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BBC1

- 6.45 Open University. Until 1.30.
- 8.55 Play School. 9.15 Trinity of Faith. The Trinity. (r) 9.30 This is the Day from the Footlights, the Netherlands.
- 10.00 Just Three Weeks in Summer. Eskdale. (r) 10.15 The World of Animation. (r) 10.30 Micro File 2 (r) 10.55 Claire Rayner's Casebook. The Gay Bereavement Project. (r) 11.20 You in Mind. Overcoming fear (r) 11.30 The Goode Kitchen (r) 11.45 Discoveries. Portuguese. (r) 12.10 See Hear. For the hearing impaired 12.35 Farming. Are French farmers better off than their British counterparts? Tim Green who has run a livestock farm in Normandy for the past three years, has the answer. 12.58 Weather.
- 1.00 This Week Next. Week. Vivian White interviews Norman Tebbit 2.00 EastEnders. (r) (Ceefax).
- 3.00 Film: The Heroes of Telemark (1952) starring Kirk Douglas, Richard Harris and Michael Redgrave. Second World War drama about the escape of British soldiers from a German-held Norwegian heavy-water plant in Norway. Directed by Anthony Mann.
- 5.10 Children of Courage. (r)
- 5.50 The Animals. Roadshow includes a dog that has become a 'living antique' (Ceefax).
- 6.25 The Price is Right. Game show presented by Leslie Crowther.
- 7.15 Hi-de-Hi! (r) (Ceefax).
- 8.15 The District Nurse. The first episode and Dr. Isobel is investigating the disappearance of a four-year-old girl. Directed by Otto Preminger.
- 12.20 The Tenth Muse. Therapy is this week's theme and Ruby is seen cavorting around the Festival for Mind, Body, and Spirit.
- 1.00 Film: The Wheelchair (1974) A road movie about the growing relationship between a veteran and an impetuous young man who replaces the veteran's sacked co-driver. Directed by Sergio Cid. English subtitles. Ends at 2.55.

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University. Until 1.30.
- 1.30 Sunday Grandstand introduced by Steve Rider. The timetable is, subject to alteration: 1.30 and 8.00 Cricket: the Refuge Assurance League match between Glamorgan and Yorkshire. 3.30 Golf: third round action in the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship. The commentators at Wentworth are Peter Alliss, Clive Clark, Bruce Critchley, and Tony Jacklin; 6.30 Football: Steve Rider with a focus on Wimbledon FC's players and its management.
- 7.15 Reflections of Gold. Peter Seabrook and Alan Titchmarsh reflect on the highlights of the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Flower Show, while Roddy Llewellyn comments on the social scene, putting names to familiar faces, and pointing out what's new on the fashion front.
- 7.45 Theatre Night: What the Butler Saw, by Joe Orton. Starring Dinsdale Landen, Prunella Scales, Tessa Peake-Jones, and Timothy West. (Ceefax) (see Choice).
- 9.10 The Brighton Festival. Entitled and commanded: the Thames Nordic Art and the Stewells, recorded at the newly-restored Royal Pavilion Music Room. Featuring trumpet Hakan Hardenberger accompanied by David Titterton. Presented by Robin Ray.
- 10.00 The Great Harts. When I Laugh (1981) starring Marsha Mason. A Neil Simon comedy, based on his play, The Lady. The Great Harts, about a divorced actress who emerges from a health clinic, supported by her friends and teenage daughter, to be offered a role by an old flame in a play that is reminiscent of her early life. Directed by Glenn Jordan. Ends at 12.00.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.55 TV-am begins with Sunday Comment 7.00. The World This Week. 7.25 Wac Extra.
- 8.30 David Frost on Sunday. 9.25 Wake Up London. 9.30 Disney's Adventures of the Gummi Bears 10.00 Get Fresh includes The Topical Team 10.30 The Adventures of Black Beauty. (r) 11.00 Morning Worship from Mark's Parish Church, Newton, Co. Down.
- 12.00 Weekend World. Unemployment - Matthew Parris talks to Lord Young, Roy Hattersley, and Malcolm Bruce.
- 1.15 Police Five 1.30 The Smurfs 1.45 Link. Three young paralysees talk about their future and their dreams of a cure.
- 2.15 LWT News headlines followed by Gymnastics and Athletics. The men's and women's apparatus finals of the European Gymnastics Championships held in Moscow; and action from the HFC United Kingdom Athletics Championships from the Moorway Sports Centre, Derby.
- 4.30 Supergrass. Children's fantasy series. (Oracle) 5.00 Show Me. Game show presented by Joe Brown.
- 5.30 Survival Special. A documentary about a wildlife team's three years on the Galapagos Islands. (r)
- 6.30 News with Nicholas Owen.
- 6.40 Highway. Sir Harry is in Rochester-upon-Avon.
- 7.15 Tarby's Frame Game. Jimmy Tarbuck presents the first in a new series of a game show for couples.
- 7.45 Dreams Lost. Dreams Found, starring Kathleen Quinlan and David Robb. Romantic drama set on the coast of Scotland. About a young American widow and the local laird. (Oracle)
- 9.35 News with Nicholas Owen.
- 9.55 Laurence Olivier: a Life. Part one of a South Bank Show tribute to the celebrated actor. (r) 11.25 LWT News headlines followed by The Silk Road. A new series about the highway that links East and West.
- 12.20 Derrick. Continental detective series. Ends at 1.15.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 Deewarain. The final episode.
- 10.00 The World This Week includes an examination of the changing political situation in China.
- 11.00 Supergrass. Adventure sports for young boys and girls. (r) 11.30 The Owl Service. Part one of a six-episode drama for children, based on the book by Alan Garner.
- 12.00 Network 7 with the Beasleys, Run DMC, and an interview with Ben from Curiosity Killed the Cat.
- 2.00 The Pocket Money Programme includes a spin expert from the British Museum.
- 2.30 Film: Uncle Vanya (1983) starring Laurence Olivier and Michael Redgrave. A made-for-television version of the Chichester Festival's presentation of Chekhov's drama. Directed by Stuart Burge.
- 4.30 Woody Woodpecker.
- 4.45 Early Music. Instruments. Part four - bowed instruments. (r)
- 5.15 Channel 4 News followed by Weather.
- 5.30 The Business. A report on how Leyland/Dai and Iveco/Ford will fare in the UK truck market battle; and can the London Stock Exchange attract back lost business?
- 6.15 Swimming. The second semifinal of the Speedo Fast Water series. (r)
- 7.15 The World at War. The last days of the Second World War. (r) (Oracle)
- 8.15 Dance on 4. A water ballet performed by Daniel Laruie, and Jean-Louis Le tacon and Company, followed by Un Chant d'Espresso. A work made at the Gare du Nord in Paris.
- 9.10 When Reason Sleeps: A Summer Ghost. The third in a series of four psychological mystery stories. (Oracle)
- 10.10 Film: The Phantom of the Opera (1943) starring Claude Rains and Nelson Eddy. The first colour version of the tale of terror about the mad composer who haunts the sewers beneath the Paris Opera House. Directed by Arthur Lubin.
- 11.50 The Twilight Zone: The Hunt. A tale of the supernatural starring Alvin Karpis. Ends at 12.20.

Radio 1

- MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
- News on the half-hour until 12.30pm, then at 2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight.
- 6.00 Mark Page 6.00 Peter Powell 6.10 Dave Lee Travis 6.15 Adrian Skaife 6.20 The Stereo 6.30 The Stereo 6.40 The Stereo 6.50 The Stereo 7.00 The Stereo 7.10 The Stereo 7.20 The Stereo 7.30 The Stereo 7.40 The Stereo 7.50 The Stereo 8.00 The Stereo 8.10 The Stereo 8.20 The Stereo 8.30 The Stereo 8.40 The Stereo 8.50 The Stereo 9.00 The Stereo 9.10 The Stereo 9.20 The Stereo 9.30 The Stereo 9.40 The Stereo 9.50 The Stereo 10.00 The Stereo 10.10 The Stereo 10.20 The Stereo 10.30 The Stereo 10.40 The Stereo 10.50 The Stereo 11.00 The Stereo 11.10 The Stereo 11.20 The Stereo 11.30 The Stereo 11.40 The Stereo 11.50 The Stereo 12.00 The Stereo 12.10 The Stereo 12.20 The Stereo 12.30 The Stereo 12.40 The Stereo 12.50 The Stereo 1.00 The Stereo 1.10 The Stereo 1.20 The Stereo 1.30 The Stereo 1.40 The Stereo 1.50 The Stereo 2.00 The Stereo 2.10 The Stereo 2.20 The Stereo 2.30 The Stereo 2.40 The Stereo 2.50 The Stereo 3.00 The Stereo 3.10 The Stereo 3.20 The Stereo 3.30 The Stereo 3.40 The 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Beardsley is £3m prime target in a buyers' market

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The annual war between the club owners of England and Scotland this year provides the theatre for Peter Beardsley to peddle the arts which his club, Newcastle United, and Manchester United are discussing with a view to a £3m transfer package. Beardsley may be released from his contract and Willie McFaul, the Newcastle manager, confirmed his interest in a player and cash deal yesterday on receipt of an inquiry from United. "We want Peter Davenport and Colin Gibson as well as £2 million," he said.

Beardsley, although he has agreed to remain attached to Newcastle for another season, was flattered to learn that his club had dangled such a ridiculous price tag around his neck. "No one is worth that amount," he said, "but if clubs are prepared to pay it, I would have to be interested."

Beardsley, who cost Newcastle a mere £150,000, would have no qualms about returning to Old Trafford. "I had a happy five months there and all the players, including Bryan Robson, treated me very well. But they were having such a good season that I didn't get much of a chance."

Competing for a place in the forward line behind Stapleton, Whiteside and a youngster called Hughes, he appeared only once in the first team, against Bournemouth in a cup tie. He left to join Vancouver Whitecaps, where he spent "three great summers" before going back to his native north east.

Hampden teams

SCOTLAND: J. Laidlaw (Aberdeen); R. Gough (Tottenham Hotspur); W. Miller (Aberdeen); A. McLeish (Aberdeen); M. McLeod (Celtic); R. Alton (Celtic); N. Simpson (Aberdeen); P. McStay (Celtic); I. Wilson (Leicester City); A. McCole (Rangers); S. McCall (Celtic). ENGLAND: C. Woods (Glasgow Rangers); G. Stevenson (Everton); S. Pearce (Nottingham Forest); G. Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur); M. Wright (Southampton); T. Butcher (Glasgow Rangers); B. Robson (Manchester United); S. Hodge (Tottenham Hotspur); P. Beardsley (Newcastle United); M. Hateley (AC Milan); C. Waddle (Tottenham Hotspur).

front of publicity. Hoddle, as disappointed with his own performance in the FA Cup final as he was to miss the game against Brazil, has been given another opportunity to display his talents to potential Continental buyers.

Hateley, recalled after an absence of almost a year, has yet to decide which of the eight offers he should accept. Selected in place of Lineker "as a reward for his loyalty" since the World Cup finals, he

can confirm his worth to his new employers.

Wright, chosen as Butcher's partner only because Adams is suffering from a shoulder injury, completes the trio of Englishmen who are uncertain about their future.

Manchester United are also negotiating the transfer of a member of Scotland's strike force, McClair. His departure from Celtic has recently been complicated by the intervention of Chelsea. He is not the only unsettled figure in Andy Roxburgh's side. Wilson is reported to be thinking of leaving Leicester City.

In spite of the possible personal distractions, both sides will have the same collective aim. But Woods and Butcher confirmed that they are especially eager to triumph in their adopted homeland against their own allies from Glasgow Rangers.

"The Scots will want to salvage their season of unfulfilment," Robson added. "We will make sure that they don't." Nor should they. But there are misgivings about a defence that, apart from Butcher, represents a line of second choices that has been brought together because of injuries.

The main concern surrounds the unreliability of Wright. Even Robson conceded that he has been "prone to the odd mistake and he must get rid of that hiccup." If he does, England by tonight should have become the favourites to claim at least a share of the Rous Cup.

Langer defies rain and wind

By Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent

Bernhard Langer surprised even himself with a 66, six strokes under par, to capture the first-round lead in the Wythe and Mackay PGA Championship on the West Course at Wentworth yesterday.

Langer, who complained on the eve of the event that a serious back injury might require surgery, defied the wind and rain to move ahead as Rick Hartmann, of the United States, and José María Canizares, of Spain, scored 68. Denis Durnan and another Spaniard, Miguel Martín, were among those on 69. Nick Faldo and Severiano Ballesteros each took 70.

Langer said: "It's the best round I've had in the last five weeks. I've won tournaments in the past when I've been injured and perhaps it's because you don't get so angry with yourself if you make errors. I had a couple of twinges in the back today, especially when I let it rip with the driver, but generally I was just happy to be out there playing well again."

Langer, who dropped his only shot of the round at the second, reached the turn in 34, two under par, by holing putts of 15 feet and 40 feet for birdies at the third and fifth respectively. He had five more birdies in an inward 32, during which he gripped the putter a little lower in order to obtain better control.

Hartmann, aged 28, produced his best golf so far this season. He is a disciple of David Leadbetter but, unlike Faldo, Leadbetter's star pupil, Hartmann has struggled this season. His best finish is joint 35th in the Moroccan Open.

Two years ago Hartmann made an 8,000-mile round trip home to Florida for a lesson from Leadbetter and on his return he immediately finished runner-up in the Lawrence Bateman International. That remains his best performance in more than three years on the European tour, although he led the Dunhill British Masters last year be-



Watch-the-birdie time: Ballesteros lands an eagle yesterday (Photograph: Julian Herbert)

fore faltering towards the end and finishing joint fifth.

"David is a fine teacher and I believe in his methods," Hartmann said. "I haven't spoken to Nick about his win in the Spanish Open last Sunday, or about his swing improvement under David's direction, but I do know that he went through a particularly hard time. David, however, said right from the start that Nick would need to be patient and that eventually it would all come right for him."

Hartmann hopes that his turn to win might arrive this weekend. If it does, he will also have much for which to thank the representative of the Ping Company, who supplied him with a new putter on the eve of the event. "I practised for two hours and I felt the time had come to try a new putter," Hartmann said. "I'm glad I did."

Two of his five birdies were made with putts of more than 15 feet. Hartmann also salvaged a par at the 15th by coaxing home a putt of 12 feet.

Faldo survived an indifferent start to move on to the heels of the leaders. He took three putts on each of the first and third greens. But he was rewarded with an eagle three

at the 12th, where he struck a superb second shot, with a three-iron to within 10 feet of the hole. Ballesteros, too, had an eagle, although his came at the 18th, where he holed from 30 feet.

EARLY LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (68 unless stated): 66: B. Langer (GB), R. Hartmann (USA), J. M. Canizares (Spain), 68: D. Durnan, M. Martín (Spain), I. Woodman, 70: N. Faldo, S. Ballesteros (Spain), R. Durnan, P. Senter (Australia), E. Dussart (France), R. Lee, 71: J. M. Canizares (Spain), K. Williams, M. Harwood (Australia), I. Balfour (Australia), P. Fowler (Australia), J. Russell, B. Lane, P. Cargill, E. O'Leary (Ireland), M. Brown, M. McQuinn, 72: Y. Fernandez (Argentina), O. Soler (Spain), R. Chapman, I. Mossy, H. Scott, D. Williams, C. O'Connor (Ireland), J. Shaw (USA), 73: G. Smith, B. Marston (Ireland), J. Sivero (Spain), N. Harrison, A. Johnston (Zimbabwe), J. Hoggarty, D. Philp (USA), P. Hearn, S. Smith (USA), J. Hewitt (USA), B. Bostock (USA).

Board gets its sums wrong

David Miller

Chief Sports Correspondent



The British Amateur Athletic Board finds itself, nonsensically, in the position of a grand prize-winning Formula One team unable to finance a design engineer to create next year's machine, because they have grossly over-rewarded this year's driver.

Frank Dick, the director of coaching, has been obliged to cancel, one year before an Olympic Games, a major, and regular, national coaching conference in July because the budget is a paltry £1,000 short, following the withdrawal of Minolta, the sponsors of the coaching programme.

With more money than ever before coming into athletics from television and sponsors, it is absurd that the board should be sanctioning payments of £10,000 to entice one generation of Olympic medal winners into competing at domestic events, and thereby simultaneously reducing its capability to prepare the next generation.

"Our financial situation is desperately tight, and our programme is in serious danger, with no other coaching sponsor in sight," Dick says, having sent cancellation letters to the national coaches, the special event coaches, and to those who advise individual performers on a personal basis. The conference would have followed the European Cup in Prague on June 27. "I'm hoping this isn't the start of the erosion of the most successful coaching structure in the Western world," Dick says.

Sponsors part on amicable terms

The board's budget for coaching is £400,000. The withdrawal of Minolta — on amicable terms, because of changing advertising requirements — means that not only are Dick and his colleagues prevented from expanding the coaching of field events, but could begin to lose part of the existing framework.

In permitting this to happen, the board has clearly got its sums wrong in the balance between commercial management, marketing and grass roots production: a further indication that the predominantly amateur administrator of increasingly professional sports are out of their depths.

There are many benefits from the July conference: a mid-year briefing, with a clearer idea of form and of selection for the world championships in August/September and the first opportunity to discuss winter preparation before the Olympics. British athletics should have passed the stage when it was worried day by day about hundreds of pounds rather than thousands.

Conrad Milton, the honorary secretary to the British Coaches Association, and a bank manager, whose husband has made the most of what is available says: "The sport has made too much money available to the athletes, and perhaps this will now be adjusted. Coaching is always the spending side of athletics, but it is the investment for the future. Obviously, it attracts less attention among potential sponsors."

Debt decision

Halifax Town, the fourth division football club with debts of £400,000, will ask creditors to accept a small percentage of the money they are owed.

Korean woes worsen

From David Miller, Barcelona

The negotiations between the International Olympic Committee and North Korea regarding next year's Olympic Games in Seoul yesterday took a marked turn for the worse. Yu Sun Kim, the North Korean member of the IOC, has notified Juan Antonio Samaranch that the military demarcation line at Panmunjom will not be opened to allow next week's visiting delegation, led by Alexandru Sipere, of Romania, to travel south from Pyongyang to Seoul.

North Korea's lack of co-operation at this stage suggests little likelihood of the hypersensitive border being opened to thousands of visitors travelling back and forth during the Games, should North Korea

accept the proposals for sharing some events.

Kim's communiqué is even more discouraging on those points scheduled to be discussed with Sipere in Pyongyang next week. Samaranch had listed 12 points for the Pyongyang delegation, primarily the required guarantees that the North Korean Government would conduct any events during the Games strictly according to the conditions of the Olympic Charter, that North Korean competitors would participate in Seoul; and that the border would be opened during the Games.

Kim has seemingly ignored these points, and has instead requested discussion on the North's continuing demands for eight sports instead of four.

Venables believes Spanish fortune favours the brave

From David Miller, Barcelona

When Terry Venables generously permitted Gary Lineker to play in England's friendly international against Brazil on Tuesday, which Lineker's contract did not oblige him to do, he was courting the kind of criticism which is unknown in Britain. Had Lineker been injured, and missed today's confrontation with the arch rivals, Real Madrid, there would have been little chance of Venables remaining as manager of Barcelona for a fourth season.

Barcelona have to win this evening to retain a possibility of regaining the league title. Real lead by four points and, with only four matches remaining in the play-off among the top six clubs, Barcelona are thus dependent on victory and then on Real dropping points — away to Majorca and Zaragoza, and at home to Espanol and Gijon. "Fortunately I'm not the type who gets injured that much," a

cheerful Lineker said after training yesterday. "There was a lot of criticism in England when I was not released for the friendly against Sweden, but playing against Brazil at Wembley was a great occasion which I would have missed." Likeable and relaxed, Lineker has scored 18 goals in his first league season here.

Venables has already set something of a record by remaining three seasons at Nou Camp, where famous names such as Herrera, Michels, Weisweiler, Lattek, and Menotti have all stayed for brief periods. Venables is sitting on the offer of a new contract and waiting first to see the outcome of this season and assess the reaction.

"I could have signed two months ago and taken advantage of my situation at that time," he says. "I have one or two other offers, including possibly one back home, but I

wanted to feel what the mood was here when we won or lost the championship. My decision will have nothing to do with money or personal factors, only what I feel has the most creative and rewarding opportunity in football. To stay here, I need to feel the players and the public wanted me to stay."

In previous meetings this season, Barcelona drew twice at Bernabeu, and won 3-2 at home to Real with three goals by Lineker. "I love the atmosphere here when the stadium is full," Lineker says. "Canacho marked me in the first two matches, and Sanchez in the other, but the Spanish League has been less hard than I expected, with a clamp-down on fouling this season. It will be very intense tomorrow. Tuesday was more of a fun day."

He smiles with the air of a man who retains an infectious pleasure in the game.

Charlton haunted by injury

From Ian Ross, Dublin

Jack Charlton, the Republic of Ireland manager, is torn between trying to make this afternoon's friendly match with Brazil in Dublin a memorable spectacle and keeping his below-strength squad injury free five days before a European Championship qualifying game in Luxembourg.

"To be honest, I would rather we played Luxembourg first and then come back to face Brazil, say next Saturday," Charlton said. Charlton has had to discount the injured Houghton, of Oxford United, and Galvin, of Tottenham Hotspur, but he hopes both will be available for Luxembourg.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: P. Bormer (Colchester), J. Anderson (Manchester City), K. Moran (Manchester United), R. Whelan (Liverpool), L. O'Brien (Manchester United), P. McShane (Manchester United), L. Brady (West Ham United), K. O'Callaghan (Portsmouth), J. Aldridge (Liverpool), F. Stapleton (Manchester United).

There are free transfers for Dave Swindlehurst and Steve Hetzke and another former England international, Alan Kennedy, a full back, has had his contract cancelled by mutual consent.

Anderson signs Viv Anderson, the 30-year-old England full back, last night completed his move from Arsenal to Manchester United, signing a four-year contract for a fee which is expected to be around £250,000.

James forced to withdraw

From Gerald Davies, Auckland

Billy James, the Aberavon and Welsh hooker, is out of the inaugural Rugby Union World Cup. An injury to knee ligaments he sustained in the game against Ireland on Monday resulted in his flying home yesterday morning from Wellington.

The injury occurred when he was caught at the bottom of a ruck and a couple of players fell on him. It did not appear serious at first but his knee swelled up during the night so

that it was quite clear by the morning that he could no longer continue. His place against Ireland is taken by Kevin Phillips, the Neath hooker.

Clive Rowlands, the Welsh manager, has also sent for Alan Phillips, the Cardiff hooker and captain, who was one of a number of players placed on standby. The Welsh management have managed to contact him before he was due to depart today with Cardiff

for a short tour of Spain. This will be Phillips's first return to the Welsh side for four years after being dropped in 1983. He will join the team in Wellington on Monday morning.

James joins two other hookers who have sustained injuries in the last few days. Dalton (New Zealand) and Harbison (Ireland) have been forced to withdraw.

New Zealand record, page 41

Delegates opposed

Club secretaries and managers yesterday opposed a Government proposal to introduce a part-membership scheme at the annual meeting of the Football League Executive Staffs Association delegates.

Graham Mackrell, the Sheffield Wednesday secretary, said: "The supporters don't want it and the clubs don't want it. Attendances are up five per cent this season and we don't want to destroy the trend."

Sean Murphy, of St Albans, will challenge Ray Minus, of the Bahamas, for his Commonwealth bantamweight boxing title at London's Albert Hall on June 17.

Record leap

Moscow (AFP) — Robert Emmiyan, the Soviet Union's European long jump champion, produced the second best leap of all time when he cleared 8.86m yesterday.

Emmiyan was 4cm short of the 8.90m world record set by the American, Bob Beamon, at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

Castle through

Italy — Andrew Castle and his Israeli doubles partner, Galid Bloom, advanced to the semi-final of the Volvo Classic yesterday with a 6-1, 6-2 win over Omar Camporese and Alessandro Baldoni, both of Italy.

Bugner blow

Sydney (AP) — Mike Weaver, of the United States, the former World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, has withdrawn from the contest with Joe Bugner, which was to be held on May 29, because of injury.

Austin out

Andy Austin has been dropped from Britain's showjumping team for the Lucerne Nations Cup because of a loss of form.



Castle: doubles victory

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